

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

**'05 Financial
Planning
Guide**
Inside



**Space tourism
just over horizon,
boosters say**
Page 9



**Yanks' Giambi offers
vague apology amid
steroid controversy**

Back page

New York's Jason Giambi

Volume 63, No. 299 © SS 2005 G

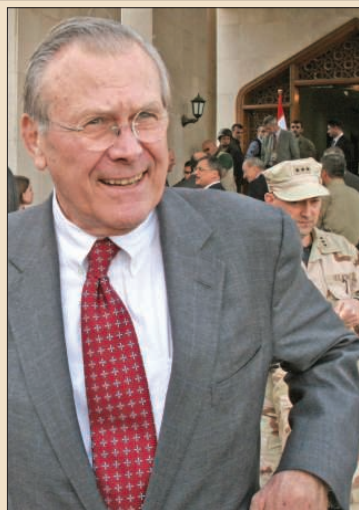
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2005

50¢

V Corps units tapped for new Iraq rotation

Headquarters, six major commands to deploy as early as April

Page 7



Rumsfeld sees Iraqi forces improving

Defense secretary surveys troops
in Baghdad as violence continues

Page 6-7



AP photos

Left: Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld leaves a meeting with Iraqi Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi on Friday in Baghdad. Right: Iraqi Emergency Response Unit troops jog from a firing range outside Baghdad. Rumsfeld watched the troopers demonstrate their weapons and combat training. "The professionalism of these units is advancing," he said.

STARS & STRIPES

COMING
SOON

Scene on Sunday

Commemorate
Black history

Coming Monday

Valentine's greetings
for deployed troopsDon't miss a
single issue.For home delivery,
call DSN 349-8437STARS & STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox.....	24
American Roundup	18-19
Classified	25-27
Comics	22-24
Crossword	23
Faces	21
Horoscope	22
Opinion	14-15
Sports	28-36
TV listings	20
Weather	17
Your Money	16

News Tracker ... What's new with old news

World

Nazi retreat from Budapest: Hungarian officials and foreign diplomats on Friday commemorated the 60th anniversary of the Nazi retreat from Budapest, gathering on the spot where Nazis executed hundreds of political prisoners, Jews and resistance fighters as Soviet troops besieged the city in the final months of World War II.

"We are here to remember not only the victims of fascist terror but also those who, 60 years ago, helped put an end to the rage of murderers," Parliamentary Speaker Katalin Szili said on the embankment overlooking the Danube River where the executions took place.

Hungary was a Germany ally during the war, but the Nazis invaded the country in early 1944, fearing Hungarian officials planned to strike a peace agreement with the Allies.

Soviet forces advancing from the east entered Budapest in January 1945 and took full control of the city on Feb. 13.

Serb war crimes fugitive: The wife of Bosnia's top war crimes fugitive, Radovan Karadzic told a Bosnian Serb daily newspaper Friday she thinks her husband will never surrender to the U.N. war crimes tribunal.

"No one from our family can make that decision and tell Radovan to surrender," Ljiljana Zelen-Karadzic told Nezavisne Novine daily. "I think he will never surrender."

As the wartime leader of the Bosnian Serbs, Karadzic is accused of having masterminded — together with former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic — Bosnia's 1992-95 war, which took 260,000 lives and left 1.8 million people homeless.

Swedish pastor's gays sermon: An appeal court on Friday overturned the hate crimes conviction of a Swedish pastor who branded homosexuals a "cancer" in a sermon.

The verdict was hailed as a victory by other clergymen and free speech advocates, but critics said the ruling could be viewed as supporting discrimination against gays and lesbians.

The court ruled that Aake Green, 63, was protected by the country's free speech laws and that his inflammatory speech against homosexuals during a 2003 sermon was not illegal. Green said gays were a threat to society and were more likely than others to rape children and animals.

Madikizela-Mandela appeal: The High Court dismissed an appeal Friday by Winnie Madikizela-Mandela and broker Andy Moolman of their fraud convictions.

Madikizela-Mandela, the fiery anti-apartheid leader and ex-wife of former President Nelson Mandela, and Moolman had sought leave to approach the Supreme Court of Appeal to challenge their April 2003 convictions.

But Judge Eberhardt Bertelsmann ruled that another court was unlikely to come to a different conclusion.

Madikizela-Mandela was originally convicted on 43 counts of fraud and 25 of theft and sentenced to five years in prison with one suspended. Moolman was convicted of 58 counts of fraud and 25 of theft and sentenced to seven years in prison with two years suspended.

However, last July the High Court in Pretoria dropped the theft charges on appeal, suspended the prison sentence for Madikizela-Mandela and reduced Moolman's sentence to four years.

Pope's health: Pope John Paul II, back from the hospital but still frail, sent a message of support to the sick on Friday, saying



Tsunami recovery: A worker uses a sledgehammer to demolish what is left of a tsunami-ravaged village of Kuala Banda Aceh, Indonesia, on Thursday. The government estimates more than a million homes were washed away on Dec. 26, 2004, along with bridges and 277 miles of roads.

Workers recovered more than 1,400 bodies, officials said Friday, while the British military announced it will pull its troops out.

he feels especially close with them and asking for their prayers.

The pope's letter was read at Mass at St. Peter's Basilica for the Church's World Day of the Sick. Before falling ill with the flu and breathing problems last week, the pontiff had planned to attend.

The 84-year-old pope sent out greetings especially to the ailing, "with whom I feel particularly close," said the message.

"Your suffering is never useless, dear sick ones," the pope's message said. Pain is precious, he said, because it has a mystical link to Christ's trial on the cross.

Nation

Sheik terror trial: An FBI informant who set himself on fire in front of the White House will be called as a witness for the defense of a Yemeni sheik accused of aiding Hamas and al-Qaida, defense attorneys said Friday.

Lawyers for Sheikh Mohammed Ali Hasan al-Muayyad and his assistant said they have subpoenaed Mohamed Alanssi, who helped build the FBI's case by posing as the go-between for al-Muayyad and another informant playing an American Muslim who wanted help funneling millions of dollars to terrorists.

Severed arms death: A man whose wife is accused of killing the couple's child by cutting off the infant's arms showed a disturbing lack of emotion after the baby's death, saying he felt "a little melancholy," according to a psychologist's report.

The report, which was obtained by The Dallas Morning News, also said John Schlosser should have done more to protect his children from his mentally ill wife.

Psychologist Jana R. Long evaluated Schlosser to help determine whether his surviving daughters, ages 6 and 9, should live with him. A judge had sealed the report last month.

Day care center murder: A Detroit man was found guilty of first-degree murder Thursday in the beating death of his

3-year-old daughter during an attack on her day care center.

The jury also convicted Bernard Kelly, 37, of shooting the day-care operator and her niece, who were both critically wounded.

Prosecutors said Kelly came to the in-home day care center run by Annette Rice on Sept. 28, inquiring about services, and attacked Rice and her niece, Sherita Griggs, before beating his daughter, Stefanie Belue, to death. They said he killed the girl because he didn't want to pay child support.

Terror funding: A federal court jury Thursday found a Muslim doctor guilty of running an illegal charity that defrauded donors and conspiring to violate U.S. sanctions by sending money to Iraq.

After deliberating six days, the U.S. District Court jury convicted Dr. Rafiq Dhafir on 59 counts that also included tax evasion and Medicare fraud. He was acquitted of one money laundering charge.

Dhafir, 57, an oncologist from the Syracuse suburb of Manlius, will be sentenced June 20.

If given the maximum penalty on each count, Dhafir would face up to 598 years in prison and fines totaling \$23.5 million. The individual charges carry sentences ranging from three to 20 years, with fines of \$250,000 to \$500,000.

Nurse charged in deaths: The capital murder trial of a former nurse accused in a string of hospital deaths will be moved and delayed a few weeks because of a lack of unbiased potential jurors in Archer County, Texas, attorneys said Thursday.

Jury selection was to begin Thursday in the trial of Vickie Dawn Jackson, 38. She is charged with injecting elderly patients with lethal drug doses at Nocona General Hospital in late 2000 and early 2001, killing 10 and injuring another.

After reviewing questionnaires filled out by 111 potential jurors, prosecutors and defense attorneys saw that about 70 people thought Jackson was guilty or had other reasons the juror didn't serve. That would not leave a big enough jury pool.

Instead of questioning potential jurors Thursday, both sides agreed to a change of venue and hope the trial can be held in a couple of weeks.

Terror charge against lawyer: Veteran civil rights lawyer Lynne Stewart was vowed to fight her conviction on terrorism charges. Her case has already left some of her colleagues on New York's legal scene clearly shaken.

"It's a dark day for civil liberties and for civil liberties lawyers in this country," attorney Ron Kuby said.

Thursday after the verdict in federal court in Manhattan. "In the post 9/11 era, where dissidents are treated as traitors, it's perhaps no surprise that a zealous civil rights lawyer becomes a convict."

Kuby — who briefly represented Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman after the 1993 attack — said the verdict was a "terrible message to send at a time when we need civil rights lawyers more than ever."

Convicted of conspiracy, providing material support to terrorists, defrauding the government and making false statements, a tearful Stewart insisted she did nothing wrong after taking over Abdel-Rahman's case and representing him until her arrest in 2002.



Stewart

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Airno devices damaged 2,600 tires so far

Officials 'urging' more people to get inspections

BY KENT HARRIS

Stars and Stripes

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — The first round of base-wide vehicle inspections found more than 2,600 tires damaged by security devices installed at the gates.

Inspectors found about 26 percent of the tires inspected in January and early February had substantial damage, according to Col. Scott Chambers, commander of the 31st Mission Support Group. Many were "just past what we would consider safe limits," he said.

About 2,600 vehicles, spread among active-duty, American civilian and local national owners, have been inspected. That's about half the vehicles registered on base.

Some vehicles have more than one damaged tire. Some tires showed no damage or only cosmetic damage.

But Chambers said early on in the process, officials realized a trend: The number of damaged

tires was higher than expected.

So the force-protection devices, commonly referred to as "tire shredders," were deactivated Jan. 18. They've stayed that way, though they could be working again if they're needed.



Chambers

The devices were installed after officials concluded that cars could drive the wrong way through the outgoing lanes to gain unauthorized entry onto base. When activated, the "shredders" are designed to puncture a car's tires if it drives through the wrong way.

Chambers said other measures are in place, and the devices wouldn't likely be used again.

Base leadership, he said, is "really urging, to the point of insist-



KENT HARRIS/Stars and Stripes

Staff Sgt. Clive Clarke looks at a tire during an inspection by the 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron. Vehicle owners on base were invited to the inspection to see if their tires had been damaged by security devices installed at the gates of Aviano Air Base, Italy.

ing, that people get their tires checked."

The base population will be notified via e-mail and command channels about another round of inspections for those who haven't had tires checked. Meanwhile, those told they have damaged tires are being advised to attend a

their damaged tires.

"I can't tell people if it's likely or not, because until we investigate it, we don't know," she said. That official investigation might take a month or two to run its course. Claims can be filed in the meantime, though, after an individual sets up an appointment at the legal office.

Some have already been filed.

The Navy, designated military oversight in Italy, will determine if individual claims are merited and possibly pay out money to car owners.

Those whose tires have passed the free inspections, run by the 31st Logistics Readiness Squadron, and still feel they have damaged tires could also have them inspected off base, Scott said. He added that all claims will be reviewed.

Chambers said he wasn't aware of any accidents caused by a tire that has been damaged.

"It doesn't mean it's not going on, but I haven't heard of it," he said.

He said inspectors have found other problems with tires, such as dry rot, too much inflation or not enough inflation and advised owners of those problems fixed, as well.

E-mail Kent Harris at: harris@mail.esr.pentagon.mil

Rota training complex puts Marines to the test

Mock-up city, other projects will soon join live-fire facility

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — The Marines lined up outside the door with ski goggles on, their rifles loaded and an intense, anxious look on their faces as if they were entering the gates of hell.

No matter that this was just practice and the bad guys waiting for them inside were just cardboard silhouettes.

They wanted to clear their room the right way as the platoon commander watched overhead from a catwalk.

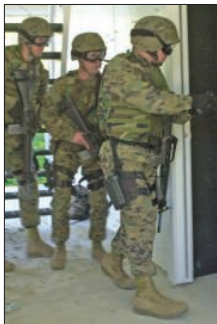
"Tango down! Tango down!" one Marine said after he shot one of the targets from behind a piece of furniture.

"Clear!" another Marine yelled.

The training run through the newly built live-fire facility last Thursday aimed to help Marines practice seizing an embassy or U.S. building taken over by terrorists. Although they routinely brush up on their building-clearing skills, the facility — known to Marines as a shoot house — added realism and variety to the exercise.

The new facility is just one of several new projects that will help members of the Rota-based Marine Corps Security Force Company Europe improve their tactics and skills.

The company, which has roughly 200 Marines, can be called upon to help protect ships passing through the Strait of Gibraltar or help augment security forces at Navy bases in Europe. In addition, the company's Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team, or FAST, must be ready to deploy on a moment's notice to help guard embassies



PHOTOS BY SCOTT SCHONAUER/Stars and Stripes

Marines from Marine Corps Security Force Company Europe prepare to storm and clear a room at Naval Station Rota, Spain. Marines are honing their skills on a new live-fire facility on base. Several other new training facilities will help troops hone their skills.

throughout Europe and elsewhere if needed.

Since the Navy consolidated Marine units from London and Naples, Italy, to Rota in 2002, the company has been in the midst of an overhaul of its training facilities and buildings.

Several projects are finished or will be completed this summer, including:

- A small mock town, dubbed "Hogan's Alley," on about two acres of land on the east side of the base will help Marines practice how to deal with riots and polish their urban warfare training.

- A 50-foot rappel tower will help Marines practice leaving a helicopter by rope.

- An obstacle course made mostly of wooden beams and ropes that will test physical endurance and climbing skills. The course is right next to the tower.

The company has been using the steel shoot house since December. The 10,000-square-foot building has six rooms with walls covered with a rubber material so that the Marines can fire simulated ammunition rounds, or "simunition" or some small-caliber rounds. A catwalk above the rooms allows squad commanders to get a bird's-eye view of the drills.

Trainers can also modify the rooms and have Marines enter different doors or block of walls to mix it up. Before the struc-

ture was built, Marines walked through scenarios in an open field or used an abandoned building on base.

"One of the things that's kind of unique to this building is that you can tailor it to fit what type of scenario you want," said 1st Lt. Lance Day, commander of the 1st platoon.

Maj. Frank Lugo, the company's commander, spearheaded many of the projects since he took over almost three years ago. He said other units also will be able to use the shoot house and other facilities.

"This is going to serve the company and the base for many years to come," he said.

E-mail Scott Schonauer at: schonauer@mail.esr.pentagon.mil

Naples elementary kids learn ABC's of jobs



SANDRA JONTZ/Stars and Stripes

Kindergartner Breanna McDevitt, 5, shows no fear in reaching out to pet a boa constrictor Thursday, which was displayed for pupils at Naples Elementary School for Career Day.

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — Youth isn't always wasted on the young.

At 7 years old, Alex Hermosura doesn't yet know what he wants to be when he grows up, but he said he knows the value of education and he's old enough to consider all options.

"You're never too young, not really," Alex said Thursday as he wound his way through the various Career Day booths set up in the Naples Elementary School gym.

"Even at 7, you might want to start thinking about a job," the second-grader said.

Ditto, said guidance counselor Joanne Benedetto. "Children are never too young to be exposed to the world of work," she said.

Through the Partnership in Education Program, which links schools with their local business communities, pupils are exposed to a smattering of career options. On Thursday at Naples Elementary,

pupils were their appetites on presentations from culinary workers to doctors and nurses, aviators, firefighters, sonar technicians, news media members and musicians, to name a few.

"This shows them that the subjects they're learning in school, and the fact that they need to develop good study habits, be good team players, get homework done and on time, be good citizens, that all of this relates to how they'll live their adult lives," Benedetto said.

"And [career day] serves to dispel stereotypes, like myths that only girls can go into nursing or only boys in engineering and science fields. This shows them they have choices and can do anything they want to do," she said.

Madeline Powell already knows she wants to enter the world of news media, said the 9-year-old. "I think it would be cool," Madeline said.

Why? "I don't know. I just want to be on TV." Why not become an

actress then? She giggles. "I want to be something serious."

Then she reconsiders. "But both would be cool, I guess. I've been in a lot of plays and I'm trying out for 'Annie.'"

Over a two-day period, all of the children at Naples Elementary are exposed to career options, even the youngest in kindergarten, Benedetto said. "At this age, they're like sponges. They're very impressionable."

And it's important for the pupils to see the adults pitching their jobs, and having fun at it, she said. "They need to see work isn't something to be endured. The kids get to see work is fun," Benedetto said.

And fun is just what 5-year-old Breanna McDevitt said she was having when she extended her small hand to pet a sand-colored boa constrictor slithering in the arms of handler Marcello Valentini. "It was fun because he didn't bite me."

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontz@mail.strips.osd.mil

Darmstadt single parents are offered some help

BY JESSICA INIGO

Stars and Stripes

DARMSTADT, Germany — The 32nd Signal Battalion knows the secret of single parenting success.

At a one-day conference Friday for single parents, or soon-to-be parents, in the battalion, officials said they are creating a community where going solo doesn't mean doing it alone.

The all-day classes, held in the Army Community Service office on Cambrai-Fritsch Casern, stressed the importance of taking time out of the hectic single-parenting lifestyle and then gathering strength from community resources.

"In the five years I've been a chaplain, I've never seen a conference specifically catering to single soldier parents. There are plenty of married couple communication and parenting classes, but never anything for the single parents," said Chaplain (Capt.) Dan Kinjorski of the 32nd Signal Battalion. Kinjorski went to his commander, Lt. Col. William S. Schumaker, last year with the idea to get single soldiers trained in the art of parenting.

The conference brought in counselors from Darmstadt's ACS and New Parent Support Program and the Army's One Source program.

Sessions included self-care for the parents, developmental phases of growth in children, discipline techniques, child safety, budgeting and child-abuse information.

"The program today answered some questions I had in my mind if I was doing things right. It's also introduced me to things I hadn't thought of before," said Sgt. Jaime Switras, who has been raising his 3-year-old daughter, Khya Maylove Switras, alone in the past year since he has been back from Iraq.

Switras, who was one of nine single parents in the conference, said he is bringing home effective and healthy ways to discipline his child when necessary.

Jo Sperry, the Army Family Advocacy Program educator at the Darmstadt ACS, said the program is essential to single soldier parents. "They still have a responsibility to the U.S. Army even though they're single parents. They still have to be mission-ready," Sperry said.

The conference is giving these single parents the tools they need to be ready, as well as allows them to network with other single parents.

"There was even another soldier during the conference who offered to help take care of other single soldiers' children if they needed some alone time or need to get something done," she said. This is just another example of how raising a child with only one parent doesn't mean raising it alone.

E-mail Jessica Inigo at: inigo@mail.strips.osd.mil



JESSICA INIGO/Stars and Stripes

Jo Sperry, the Army Family Advocacy educator, speaks to nine single parents during the 32nd Signal Battalion all-day conference Friday at the Army Community Service Office in Darmstadt, Germany.

Marine veteran dies at age 106

The Associated Press

SHREVEPORT, La. — George Dewey Perkins, one of the nation's oldest veterans of the U.S. Marine Corps, has died at the age of 106.

He would have been 107 next month.

Perkins died Wednesday of natural causes at Overton Brooks VA Medical Center, said his adopted granddaughter Rose Mary Mason-Robinson, a patient advocate at the hospital.

Perkins had been active until a week ago and was admitted to the hospital Tuesday.

He took part in public events as recently as the Veterans Day re-

dedication of Municipal Auditorium in November.

"If I could go, I'd go back in today," Perkins said in late May at ceremonies honoring deployed Marines. "I'd go right back in today, and I'd join the 1st Regiment."

Perkins was a month older than a man described last year by the Department of Defense as the nation's oldest known living Marine, Joseph DiPietro of Buffalo, N.Y.

Perkins served in the Marines from 1917 to 1919 and was about to head to Europe when he and other members of his unit came down with the Spanish flu, which was killing millions of people throughout the world. Perkins'

sergeant, an American Indian, kept them away from the unit's doctors and treated them with a tribal medication, which Perkins said saved their lives.

Perkins was born in Iola, Kan., and moved to the Shreveport area during the 1920s oil boom. His stories included one about the time a heavy pipe cracked his skull in the oil field and he was given up for dead by all but one nurse, who revived him and became his wife.

Perkins was married to a woman to whom he was married 65 years, died in 1986.

Survivors include his son, J.R. Perkins, and two adopted granddaughters. Perkins will be buried in Sentries Memorial Park with full military and Masonic honors.

Army specialist convicted of assault, battery

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — A military panel convicted a 24-year-old Army specialist of assault and battery, a 21st Theater Support Command spokesman said Thursday.

Spec. Dianet Segui, of the 5th Maintenance Company based in Kaiserslautern, was convicted of the lesser charge after pleading not guilty to aggravated assault, spokesman Maj. Mark Wright said.

Segui was accused of cutting another soldier in her unit with a knife near the barracks where they both lived.

The soldier, whose name was not released, was treated and released from Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for cuts to his hand, back and side, Wright said.

Segui apparently was romantically interested in the soldier and became upset when he expressed interest in another woman, Wright said.

Segui was sentenced to three months of confinement, reduction in rank from E4 to E3 and forfeiture of all pay and allowances for three months.

From staff reports

Sources: Ship skipper faces admiral's mast in grounding

BY JON R. ANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

The skipper of the nuclear-powered submarine that crashed into the side of an undersea mountain is quietly being sent before an "admiral's mast" in Japan this weekend to face charges of endangering his ship, according to several active-duty and retired Navy sources familiar with the case.

Cmdr. Kevin Mooney was slated to appear before 7th Fleet commander Vice Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert in Yokosuka on Saturday morning, the sources said.

The Navy's highest form of non-judicial punishment, admiral's mast falls short of the criminal proceedings of a court martial, but can result in anything from full exoneration to fines, reprimands, and loss of qualifications.

Pastly, Navy officials decline to comment on Mooney's case.

"It would be inappropriate to discuss any nonjudicial punishment proceedings at this time," said Greenert's spokesman, Cmdr. El Skelton.

On Jan. 18, the San Francisco, a Los Angeles-class, fast-attack sub-

marine, is believed to have rammed into an undersea mountain 350 nautical miles south of its homeport at Guam. One sailor was killed and another 23 injured in the incident.

The sub suffered massive damage to its sonar dome and bow structure, but was able to limp back to Guam where it is now in dry dock. Navy officials are still unsure if the sub can be salvaged.

Mooney's mast, however, comes before the detailed investigation into the accident is complete. And unlike most nonjudicial punishment throughout the rest of the military, sailors from sea-going commands cannot refuse mast and demand a court-martial.

At issue, say officials, is whether chiefs supplied to Mooney provided any clue of dangerous war. Officials at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in Bethesda, Md. report that the accident that the main maps used by the U.S. Navy did not reveal any obstacle anywhere near the sight of the crash.

Officials familiar with the case, however, say another, much

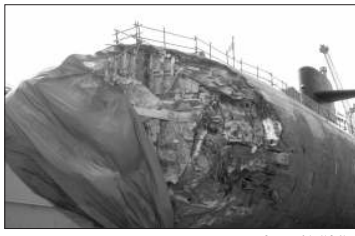
older chart was believed to be aboard the San Francisco indicating discolored water several miles away.

Early findings of the Navy's investigation appear to indicate some level of "questionable" practices by Mooney, according to a Feb. 7 letter obtained by Stars and Stripes to Greenert from the commander of Pacific submarine forces Rear Adm. P.F. Sullivan.

Preliminary findings of the grounding, reads the letter, "highlights the questionable Voyage Planning processes and navigation practices Cdr. Kevin Mooney implemented and maintained while in command. He was responsible for the safe surfed and submerged navigation of the ship, and should be held accountable."

Still, the vast majority of the three-page letter outlines Mooney's many accomplishments while in command of the San Francisco.

Sullivan said he had personally selected Mooney "to correct significant command climate and performance issues" aboard the ship.



Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

A source says Cmdr. Kevin Mooney is slated to appear before 7th Fleet commander Vice Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert in Yokosuka on Saturday morning in connection with the Jan. 8 grounding of the USS San Francisco, shown here in dry dock at U.S. Naval Base Guam.

Since taking command in late 2003, Sullivan said Mooney was directly responsible for transforming a down-in-the-dumps crew into one of the best in the fleet.

The ship, he wrote, got the highest marks of any Pacific submarine in a grueling Tactical Readiness Evaluation, among other top line certifications of its nuclear propulsion system and engineering departments.

Mooney's "operational planning skill and command presence ensured the ship's success in dynamic operations of vital importance to national security," adds Sullivan.

"In the face of huge quality-of-life challenges faced by his ship, including a five-month deployment to San Diego for material repairs and transforming Guam into a viable submarine homeport, retention and reenlistment rates significantly exceeded fleet norms" under Mooney, writes Sullivan.

"Despite the intense scrutiny under which he has been placed as a result of this tragedy, Cmdr. Mooney has conducted himself with honor and dignity. I ask that you consider his positive contributions to the U.S. Navy during your deliberations at Admiral's Mast."

E-mail Jon R. Anderson at: anderson@mail.strips.osd.mil

Proposal boosts vets' programs

BY LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Programs to find jobs and housing for former servicemembers would see a slight increase in the proposed 2006 federal budget, delisting veterans groups.

The Department of Labor, which oversees those programs, faces a 4.4 percent cut in its funding under President Bush's plan, and officials from the groups behind the Veterans' Employment and Training Service programs would see similar cuts.

Instead, plans call for an \$1.5 million increase from the \$222.8 million allocated in 2005.

Money in those programs goes toward things like job training for former and outgoing military personnel, free transitional housing for homeless veterans, and legal

advice for reservists and guardsmen who have trouble returning to their jobs after deployment.

And even though the increase was less than 1 percent, it was a pleasant surprise to Jim McGill, director of employment policy for the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

"The mood with domestic spending this year was all doom and gloom," he said. "I expected this to be flat-lined at best."

Many civilian job assistance programs saw dramatic cuts, like the 40 percent cut proposed for the office of disability employment policy.

"I think this shows the administration has recognized an obligation to those who have served, and especially to those who are just recently veterans," McGill said.

E-mail Leo Shane at: shane@strips.osd.mil

MILITARY UPDATE

Tom Philpott

'Unemployable' retirees still waiting for fully restored pay

Military retirees rated "unemployable" are unlikely to see their retired pay fully restored under the "accelerated concurrent receipt" provision that Congress approved last fall.

After months of internal debate, the Department of Defense is nearing a final decision to limit full current payments to 23,000 retirees who have disability ratings of 100 percent, an official said.

That would mean 28,000 retirees rated as "individually unemployable" (IU) will not pay fully restored immediately but rather will continue to see it phased in under a 10-year schedule set in 2003.

"Concurrent receipt" refers to payment of both military retirement, usually after 20 or more years' service, and VA disability pay for injuries or illnesses that occur while on active duty.

Until recently, all disabled retirees who completed full careers saw retired pay reduced, dollar-for-dollar, by any amount they received in tax-free VA compensation.

Congress a few years ago voted to end the retired pay offset for combat-related disabilities, and to phase it out over a decade for retirees with noncombat disabilities of 50 percent or higher.

Last year, lawmakers relaxed the concurrent receipt ban further, voting to fully restore, effective Jan. 1, any offsets in retired pay for 100-percent dis-

abled retirees.

Defense officials found the law's technical language vague, however, with regard to retirees rated as unemployable.

These retirees have disability ratings below 100 percent but so still severe that they can't work. VA declares such disabilities "total" and provides compensation equal to that of 100-percent disabled retirees.

An armed services committee staff member put the odds of Congress voting to extend accelerated concurrent receipt to IU retirees later this year at "well below 50-50" if the issue, as expected, returns to Capitol Hill.

"It's the dollars," the staffer said.

"And if the reality is that DOD tried but couldn't get it done, it won't help political chances up here."

He cited a tight 2006 defense budget, mounting concerns over deficit spending and recent criticism by defense officials that too much money already has been spent on benefits for military retirees and survivors.

"People [supporting] big direct-spending bills just keep plugging away, thinking everybody will cave. I don't think it's going to go that way" this year, he said.

"I don't think we're back to business as usual."

To comment, write Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA 20120-1111, e-mail milupdate@jao.com or visit www.militaryupdate.com

WASHINGTON D.C.

• Buyer Incentive Program
 • ALL FREE!
 No Obligation

• Free Buyer/Broker Services
 • Serving all
 Northern Virginia

Realtor Relocation specialists from RE/MAX Alliance will provide information on housing, schools, commuting and will answer your questions about living in the metro area.

Ramstein/Kaiserslautern Roseville/Hill • 06371-80010 February 11...2pm-5pm February 15...9am-6pm February 13...10am-6pm	Grafenwohr Grüden/Lehr/Kemmling • 09602-9418-40 February 21-22 By Appointment February 27...10am-6pm	Heidelberg Hofheim/Walldorf • 0627-360 February 25...2pm-5pm February 26...9am-6pm February 27...10am-6pm
--	---	--

Bill Bison - Lifetime Top Producer
 Mary Lou Henry - Life Member, Million Dollar Sales Club
 • TOLL FREE FROM GERMANY •
 Dial 0130-04010 to connect to USA ask for 1-800-344-7253
 RE/MAX Alliance, Properties, 3641 Bruce Centre Parkway, Buick, VA 22015
 •703-250-8500

Car bomb at Iraqi mosque kills at least 12

Men open fire on crowd at bakery, kill 11

BY JASON KEYSER

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A car bomb exploded outside a Shiite mosque northeast of Baghdad on Friday, killing at least 12 people and injuring dozens, a police official and witnesses said, while masked men sprayed gunfire into a crowd at a bakery in a mostly Shiite neighborhood in the capital, killing 11 people, police said.

The bombing in Balad Ruz, 45 miles northeast of Baghdad, occurred as mosque services ended, killing 13 people and wounding 40, police Col. Tahseen Mohammed said.

Residents reported that a pickup truck loaded with vegetables and parked in front of the mosque looked suspicious, Mohammed said.

When Iraqi troops approached the truck, it exploded, he added.

But Brig. Adel Moutan, the regional head of the Iraqi National Guard, reported only 12 killed and 23 wounded. He said the pickup exploded as a guard patrol passed by and at the same time the mosque was letting out.

The bakery attack in the New Baghdad area occurred after gunmen in several cars blocked the

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Thursday, Feb. 10, 2005, at least 1,453 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,111 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said.

The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is four higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. on Thursday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 20; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,315 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,002 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ No deaths reported.

■ The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No identifications reported.

street in front of the shop with their vehicles and entered the shop. They fired on the workers, killing 11 people, an Iraqi police investigator said.

Although the motive was unclear, the attack was the latest in a series of violent incidents since the Jan. 30 national elections, raising questions whether the landmark balloting will lead quickly to stability in this fractured country.

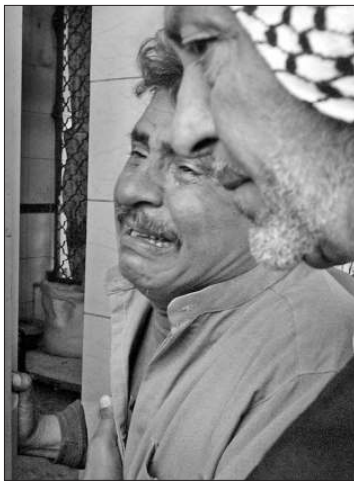
On Thursday, insurgents ambushed Iraqi police who came to an area about 10 miles southeast of Baghdad to search for weapons. The Interior Ministry said 14 policemen were killed, 65 were

wounded and six were missing after the two-hour gunbattle. Four insurgents also died in the fighting, the ministry said.

Elsewhere, an aide to Iraq's most revered Shiite Muslim cleric was injured in an assassination attempt in Baghdad after receiving threats from militants opposing his support for Iraq's elections, the man's relative said Friday.

Sheik Ammar al-Hilali, a representative of Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, was shot seven times by gunmen in two cars as he left sunset prayers at a mosque Tuesday, said the relative, Ali al-Lafta.

The relative said al-Hilali had received many threats from Sunni Arab extremists.



A man grieves at the scene of a shooting at a bakery in the New Baghdad area of Baghdad on Friday. Masked gunmen opened fire on a crowd at a Baghdad bakery Friday, killing 11 people, police and witnesses said.

Air Force Air Mobility Command grounds part of C-130E fleet

BY STEVE LIEWER

Stars and Stripes

The Air Force's Air Mobility Command has grounded or restricted half of its fleet of C-130E Hercules troop and cargo transport planes because of concerns about the strength of their wings, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper said Thursday during testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The grounding affects 30 C-130Es, an older variant manufactured between 1962 and 1974, Jumper said.

An additional 60 are being placed on "restricted flight status," according to a statement released Friday by AMC headquarters at Scott Air Force Base, Ill. About 190 of the aircraft fly for active-duty Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve units.

The statement said the AMC commander, Gen. John Handy, grounded the aircraft Thursday after a series of inspections during the past four years revealed unusu-



MAJ. MIKE PITZER/Courtesy of the Department of Defense

An Alaska Air National Guard C-130 Hercules taxis in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in 1998. The Air Mobility Command has grounded or restricted half of its C-130Es.

ally numerous and severe cracks in the wing box structure of some C-130s.

The wing box is the center section of the aircraft, where the wings meet the fuselage, and is subject to high levels of stress

— especially in C-130s — which frequently take off and land with heavy loads on remote, rough runways.

Jumper said the order affected a dozen aircraft flying missions in Iraq and Afghan-

istan. An Air Force source in Kuwait confirmed that 11 aircraft at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait, have been grounded for inspections.

The only C-130s based in Europe belong to the 86th Airlift Wing, based at Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

First Lt. Jennifer Lovett, a spokeswoman for the unit, said none of the wing's C-130s have been grounded, but several have been placed on "restricted" status. She said AMC has not yet defined that status, but it will require aircraft inspections.

Additional C-130s also are based at Yokota Air Base, Japan, but no information was available about restrictions on that fleet at press time.

A British C-130 crashed Jan. 30 near Balad Air Base, Iraq, about 40 miles northwest of Baghdad, after the wing reportedly sheared off in flight. Ten British soldiers and airmen died. Investigators are still trying to determine the cause of the crash.

Steve Liewer at: liewers@mail.strips.osd.mil

Ind. Guardsman charged in Iraqi's death

FORT KNOX, Ky. — An Indiana National Guard soldier charged with killing an Iraqi police officer changed his story multiple times before admitting to killing the man, then shooting himself, a military investigator said Thursday.

Cpl. Dustin Berg, 21, of Ferdinand, Ind., who had received a Purple Heart after being wounded in Iraq, is charged with murder.

His lawyer said the fatal shooting was in self-defense. The testimony Thursday came at an Article 32 hearing. Next, investigating officer Maj. Samuel Butzbach will make a recommendation on whether Berg should face a court-martial.

GIs keep kid from using grenade

BAGHDAD — U.S. troops from the 2nd Infantry Division foiled an attempt Thursday to coerce a child into accepting a hand grenade in the insurgent stronghold of Ramadi, the U.S. command said.

The troops were on patrol when they saw a blue sedan with three military-aged males pull up near their position. The driver left the vehicle and approached a child, who took a grenade from the adult, a U.S. statement said.

The Americans fired a warning shot and the child dropped the grenade and ran away. The adult returned fire with a pistol and U.S. troops disabled the vehicle, killing one and wounding two, the statement said.

Marine faces charges in Iraqis' deaths

RALEIGH, N.C. — A Marine lieutenant has been charged with a military count of premeditated murder for shooting two Iraqis during a search for a terrorist hideout, and faces a possible death sentence if he is found guilty, his lawyer said Thursday.

Second Lt. Ilario G. Pantano, 33, is accused of "numerous violations" of the Uniform Code of Military Justice in connection with the deaths, the Marine Corps said.

An Article 32 hearing will be held; no date has been set. Spokesman Maj. Matt Morgan said exact charges will be released later.

From The Associated Press

V Corps to return to Iraq within year

By Jessica Ingo and
Jon R. Anderson

Stars and Stripes

DARMSTADT, Germany — The Army's top warfighting headquarters in Europe has been tapped to go back to the desert.

V Corps headquarters and six of its major commands will return to Iraq sometime between April 2005 and January 2006, according to a Department of Defense announcement Friday.

Also, six additional U.S. Army Europe command elements are getting orders sending them to Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa within the same time frame.

V Corps is still led by Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, who served as the top commander in Iraq until he was replaced by Gen. George Casey in July 2004.

It's unclear if Sanchez will be put in the awkward position of returning to Iraq in a more junior role. Tours for corps commanders are typically two years, but are often extended to three.

Under the shadow of the Abu Ghraib scandal, Pentagon officials are so far mum on whether Sanchez will be offered another assignment — requiring another round of confirmation hearings before the Senate — or retire.

Regardless, it will be Sanchez's job for now to prepare his staff

Upcoming USAREUR deployments

The following is a list of USAREUR commands and where they'll deploy between April and January 2006:

Operation Iraqi Freedom

■ **21st Theater Support Command:** Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 37th Transportation Command; Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 28th Transportation Battalion; 68th Transportation Company (Medium); 109th Transportation Company (Medium); 495th Movement Control Team; 486th Movement Control Team; 26th Trailer Transfer Detachment; 57th Supply and Services Company; 612th Movement Control Team; 623rd Movement Control Team; and the 624th Movement Control Team.

■ **5th Signal Command:** 72nd Signal Battalion.

■ **1st Personnel Command:** 90th Personnel Service Battalion and its HHD, A and B Detachments, 90th Postal Company, 1st Postal Battalion, and 2nd Postal Battalion; the 55th PSB and its HHD, A and B Detachments, 55th Postal Company, 2nd

Postal Platoon, and 3rd Postal Platoon; and A Detachment, 510th PSB.

■ **The 266th Finance Command:** HHC, 266th Finance Command; HHD and A and B Detachment, 8th Finance Battalion; and C Detachment/39th Finance Battalion.

Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan)

■ **21st Theater Support Command:** HHD, 95th Military Police Battalion; 95th MP Battalion Kernel Master (1); 95th MP Battalion Military Working Dog Teams (8); 272nd MP Company; 230th MP Company; 702nd Explosive Ordnance Detachment; and 2251st Cargo Transfer Company to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Horn of Africa

■ **21st Theater Support Command:** 95th MP Battalion Military Working Dog Teams (3).

Source: U.S. Department of Defense

for the complex war zone he knows well.

The V Corps headquarters, which led the initial assault into Iraq nearly three years ago, will replace XVIII Airborne Corps as the leadership nucleus for ground units in Iraq when it formally assumes command of Multi-National Corps-Iraq in early 2006, according to the statement.

The Fort Bragg, N.C.-based XVIII Airborne Corps is just arriving in Iraq for its yearlong tour, replacing the Fort Hood, Texas-based III Corps.

V Corps will be responsible for overseeing a slew of stateside units during its next tour there, including the Fort Campbell, Ky.-based 101st Airborne Division and Fort Hood-based 4th In-

fantry Division, as well 1st Armored Division's two German-based Brigades.

The main support units most recently tagged to deploy alongside V Corps staff include the Germany-based 3rd Corps Support Command, V Corps Artillery, 205th Military Intelligence Brigade, 130th Engineer Brigade, 22nd Signal Brigade and 30th Medical Bri-

gade.

It is unclear who will provide the majority of aviation support during the deployment. V Corps' attack helicopter 11th Aviation Regiment and support helicopter 12th Aviation Brigade are both supporting deployments to Afghanistan.

"We have the order and we will currently be assessing the requirements to determine which units will be sent to meet those requirements," said Hilde Patton, V Corps spokeswoman, of units could be added to the Iraq deployment roster.

"I can speculate that this early announcement gives a certain predictability," Patton said, but would not give specifics on which additional formations would be deploying.

Patton said it's impossible to tell how many veterans of V Corps' first foray into Iraq will still be part of the corps when it returns to the war zone.

"People are always moving in and out," Patton said. With most tours about three years long, however, the vast majority of soldiers and staff will have rotated to new assignments by the time the corps flag is planted back in Baghdad.

E-mail Jessica Ingo at: ingoj@starsandstripes.com

E-mail Jon R. Anderson at: anderson@starsandstripes.com

Rumsfeld tours Iraq, sees security forces training

By John J. Lumpkin

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, observing Iraqi security forces in action Friday, declared "there's no question progress has been made" in preparing the war-torn nation for building a new government.

At Camp Victory outside of Baghdad, Rumsfeld watched an Iraqi counterterrorist team assault a compound in a demonstration that included live weapons fire, stun grenades and a squad of masked commandos rappelling from a helicopter.

"The professionalism of these units is advancing," Rumsfeld said of Iraqi forces.

In talks with soldiers, both Iraqi and American, Rumsfeld emphasized the importance of handing over security to Iraqi troops so American troops can come home. But he acknowledged that it takes time to train and equip the Iraqis.

"Once they have that confidence, that capacity and capability, our forces, coalition forces, will be able to go home," Rumsfeld told U.S. troops in Mosul in northern Iraq. "And go home with the honor you will have earned."

Ultimately, American forces may only help, he said. "It is the Iraqis who will have to, over time, defeat the insurgency."

Later Friday, with Rumsfeld watching a few feet away, members of Iraq's Emergency Response Team, a special police assault unit, fired AK-47s and sidearms at targets on a firing range outside of Baghdad.

After the demonstration, he told them, "If you all do your jobs well, you'll end up in a fine country with a bright future."

After a review of an Iraqi army unit, Lt. Gen. N. Abadi, Iraq's deputy chief of staff, told U.S. defense officials Iraq's military needed two things: more equipment, and time to get his forces trained.

U.S. Lt. Gen. David Petraeus, chief of the effort to create independent Iraqi security forces, said Thursday at a NATO conference in Nice, France, that Iraqi military and police amounted to about 136,000 trained and equipped personnel. The goal is to reach 200,000 by Oct. 1, and ultimately create a force of 270,000 or more.

The forces run the gamut — from urban police officers and highway patrolmen to military special forces and counterterrorist operators. About 40,000 of the troops are capable of de-



U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, center, speaks with senior Iraqi officers about the 1st Mechanized Brigade — one of the country's new military forces — at a joint U.S.-Iraqi military base at Taji, near Baghdad, on Friday.

playing around Iraq and operating directly against its insurgency. Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said recently. Other analysts put the figure of effective counterinsurgency fighters much lower.

Woman's GI story a hoax

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. — A woman concocted a heartbreaking story of how her soldier husband died a hero in Iraq — and then admitted the story was all a hoax.

"I think I need some serious counseling," 24-year-old Sarah Kenney told The Daily Sentinel newspaper on Wednesday editions. "This is the most serious lie I've ever told, but I've been caught in many lies."

The touching story of how Sp. Jonathan Kenney took a bullet meant for an Iraqi child on Jan. 29 was reported by a score of Colorado media after a news release was sent to them by the nonprofit group HomeFront Heroes. There is no record of a soldier with that name dying in Iraq. Sarah Kenney is married to a man named Michael Kenney, and he is neither currently in the military nor serving in Iraq.

Mesa County District Attorney Pete Hautzinger said Tuesday that he had convened a team of investigators to look into the hoax because if any laws were broken.

Phyllis Derby, founder and president of HomeFront Heroes, said Kenney convinced her group the story was true. The account of the fictitious man's death was then released to local media.

"I would have never thought in a billion years that she was lying to me," Derby said. She said the donations on behalf of the fictitious soldier would be returned.

From The Associated Press

Army orders investigation into mud-wrestling incident in Iraq

New York Daily News

NEW YORK — The Army has ordered a full-scale investigation into the sex and mud-wrestling scandal at Camp Bucca in Iraq, modeled after its sweeping probe of abuse allegations at Abu Ghraib prison.

Lt. Gen. James Helmly, commander of the

Army Reserve, ordered the probe after the New York Daily News reported that sergeants at Camp Bucca allegedly led their rooms to GIs for sex parties and arranged a mud-wrestling bout with scantily clad female military prison guards last year.

The investigation will be conducted under

Army Regulation 15-6, the same rules that governed Gen. Antonio Taguba in his probe into the torture of Iraqi detainees at Abu Ghraib.

The order removes control of the investigation from Col. Isadore Rommes, of the 160th Military Police Battalion whose soldiers allegedly organized and participated in the scandal.

IN THE STATES

Police: Mother made up story about tossed baby

By CURT ANDERSON
The Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — A woman who claimed to have rescued a newborn boy after he was thrown from a moving car was actually the child's mother, fabricating the story to conceal her pregnancy, officials said Friday.

The woman, who kept her pregnancy a secret from her family and others, had planned to take the baby to authorities, Broward County Sheriff Ken Jenne said. She then built her story after seeing two people argue inside their car, he said; the baby was never thrown.

"It's not as horrible as we first

thought," Jenne said. "The baby was never thrown out of a moving car. This is the case of a disturbed woman who gave birth

"It's not as horrible as we first thought."

Ken Jenne
Broward County Sheriff

and did not want to keep her child."

The woman gave birth Thursday afternoon, and an hour later dropped him off at a Broward sheriff's substation, telling authorities her tale of seeing the boy tossed out of the car, Jenne said.

The 38-year-old woman has not been charged.

"She has indicated that she does not want the child," Jenne said.

The 8-pound, 2-ounce boy, whose umbilical cord was still attached when he was brought in, was hospitalized in good condition Friday. Nurses at the hospital have nicknamed the child Johnny.

State law lets a mother leave a baby at any medical facility or fire station within three days of birth without any questions asked.

A woman had said thought the people in the car had thrown out a puppy, but then she found the baby inside a small plastic bag.

'Salesman' playwright Miller dies

By JOHN CHRISTOFFERSEN
The Associated Press

ROXBURY, Conn. — Arthur Miller, the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright whose most famous fictional creation, Willy Loman in "Death of a Salesman," came to symbolize the American dream gone awry, has died. He was 89.

Miller, who had been hailed as America's greatest living playwright, died Thursday night at his home in Roxbury of heart failure, his assistant, Julia Bolus, said Friday. His family was at his bedside, she said.

His plays, with their strong emphasis on family, morality and personal responsibility, spoke to the growing fragmentation of American society.

"A lot of my work goes to the center of where we belong — if there is any root to life — because nowadays the family is broken up, and people don't live in the same place for very long," Miller said in a 1988 interview.

Playwright Edward Albee said Miller had paid him a compliment, saying "that my plays were 'necessary.' I will go one step further and say that Arthur's plays are 'essential.'"

Miller's career was marked by early success. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for "Death of a Salesman" in 1949, when he was just 33 years old.

His marriage to Marilyn Monroe in 1956 further catapulted the playwright to fame, though that was publicity he said he never pursued.

In a 1992 interview with a French newspaper, he called her "highly self-destructive" and said that during their marriage, "all my energy and attention were devoted to trying to help her solve her problems. Unfortunately, I didn't have much success."

"Death of a Salesman," which took Miller only six weeks to write, earned rave reviews when it opened on Broadway in February 1949, directed by Elia Kazan.

The story of Willy Loman, a man destroyed by his own stubborn belief in the glory of American capitalism and the redemptive power of success, was made into a movie and staged all over the world.

In 1999, 50 years after it won the Tony Award as best play, "Death of a Salesman" won the Tony for best revival of the Broadway season.

Miller, then 83, received a lifetime achievement award.

"Just being around to receive it is a pleasure," he joy-

Miller won the New York Drama Critics' Circle's best play award twice in the 1940s, for "All My Sons" in 1947 and for "Death of a Salesman." In 1953, he received a Tony Award for "The Crucible," a play about mass hysteria during the Salem witch trials that was inspired by the repressive political environment of McCarthyism.



Newlyweds Marilyn Monroe and Arthur Miller appear after their civil wedding ceremony in White Plains, N.Y., on June 29, 1956. Miller, the Pulitzer prize-winning playwright, has died, his assistant said Friday. He was 89.

That play, still read by thousands of American high school students each year, is Miller's most frequently performed work.

Miller and Monroe divorced after five years and in 1962 he married his third wife, playwright Inge Morath. That same year, Monroe committed suicide. Miller wrote the screenplay for the Monroe film "The Misfits," which came out in 1960, and reflected on their relationship in his 1963 play "After the Fall."

Miller's producer, David Reicherthal, said as recently as this week, he and Miller were working on a London revival of "Death of a Salesman." It will go on as planned in May, he said.

"His loss is a little like the Manhattan skyline," Reicherthal said. "I'm at a loss for words."



Traffic slows on South Union Street in Burlington, Vt., on Thursday as snow continues to fall across New England, closing schools and cutting power but bringing welcome accumulations for winter enthusiasts.

Snow buffs welcome New England storm

The Associated Press

LACONIA, N.H. — It must have been a bittersweet moment as Jim Lyman got ready to board his snowmobile.

Lyman, president of the Lakes Region Sled Dog Club, was forced to cancel the annual World Championship Sled Dog Derby because there wasn't enough snow earlier in the week.

On Thursday, he suffered the opposite problem. The wet, heavy snow that blanketed much of northern New England was enough to stage a scaled-back derby, but fell too late to prepare for the standard three-day contest.

A full-scale dog sled race was but one casualty of Thursday's snow. Across the region, the storm canceled classes, dropped power lines and slowed traffic — but heartened winter enthusiasts who had to deal with minimal accumulations for much of the season.

Snow totals ranged from 3 inches to 27 inches in Maine, New

Hampshire and Vermont. It still was snowing in eastern New Hampshire and western Maine on Friday.

The storm left some of its deepest snow in the western Maine foothills and mountains. Kirk Apffel from the National Weather Service says Hebron in Oxford County got 27 inches and Rangeley received 24 inches.

At the height of the storm there was "thundersnow" — heavy snow accompanied by thunder and lightning.

Central Maine Power reported 45,000 customers were still without electricity as of Friday morning. Utility crews from Massachusetts were sent to Maine to help out, said CMP spokeswoman Gail Rice.

In Vermont, roughly 10,000 customers lost power Thursday.

Public Service Company of New Hampshire said about 24,000 customers were without power at one time during the storm, mostly in the central and northern parts of the state.

Pregnant Kentucky woman kills attacker

FORT MITCHELL, Ky. — A pregnant woman fought off and killed a knife-wielding woman who may have been trying to steal the baby, police said Friday.

Police said 26-year-old Sarah Brady, who is nine months pregnant, acted in self-defense in killing Katherine Smith on Thursday. No charges were filed. Brady was treated for cuts at a hospital.

Smith, 22, had been falsely telling neighbors for weeks that she was pregnant, and a search of her apartment after her death revealed a full baby nursery, investigators said.

Police said that about a week ago, Smith called Brady, a stranger, and asked her to come over and pick up a mistakenly delivered package. Thursday's attack occurred after Brady went to pick up a second package at Smith's apartment, police said.

Oregon man accused in mass suicide pact

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. — A man used e-mail to try to set up a mass suicide on Valentine's Day involving as many as 32 people across the United States and Canada, authorities said.

Gerald Krien, 26, was arrested Wednesday and faces charges of solicitation to commit murder, according to Klamath County sheriff's deputies.

Detectives learned of the plan from a woman in Canada who said she saw the message in an Internet chat room. The woman, who was not identified by authorities, told detectives she was going to take part in the suicide pact but had second thoughts when another chat room participant said she would do it and talked about killing her two children, said Klamath County Sheriff Tim Evinger.

From The Associated Press

Space tours likely to remain risky for years

BY ERICA WERNER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The investors and moguls of the infant space tourism industry predict there will be deaths along the way, but it's worth it so regular people can one day blast into outer space.

"There are going to be fatalities," said Michael Kelly, a member of a group that is setting industry safety standards for space fliers. "It's a risky business... In the early days of personal spaceflight, this is not transportation — this is adventure."

Kelly and other space tourism boosters, appearing Wednesday before a House panel considering regulations for the new

industry, said the inevitable accidents will provide valuable lessons, comparing it to the early failures that preceded the development of commercial aviation.

"If you see Bert Rutan as being like the Wright brothers in this industry... what we have before us is what existed before aircraft were developed in the early 1900s," said Virgin Galactic President Will Whitehorn, referring to the designer of the privately financed manned rocket that shot into space over California's Mojave Desert in October.

The flight of Rutan's SpaceShipOne to nab the \$10 million Ansari X Prize energized the quest for commercial human spaceflight.

Congress passed legislation in December creating the first regulatory framework for sending paying passengers into space, and Virgin Galactic and at least one other company are already taking reservations.

As long as Congress doesn't try to enact unwieldy safety regulations, out-of-this-world vacations could be widely available within two decades, industry officials told a hearing of the House Infrastructure and Transportation's aviation subcommittee.

"It's reasonable to expect that by 2025... that this part of our industry will have developed to the point where there could potentially be many, many of these launches," said John W. Douglass, head of Aerospace Industries Association of America.

But for now, under the Commercial Space Launch Amendments Act of 2004, the FAA must wait eight years to issue regulations to protect the safety of passengers and crew, unless a serious safety problem, injury or death occurs before then. The agency may issue regulations to protect the non-flying public.

FAA Administrator Marion Blakey said those rules are enough for now, agreeing that government oversight of commercial space entrepreneurs must evolve along with the industry.

"It was more than 20 years after the Wright brothers' first flight before government regulations concerning aviation were put into place," she said.

Push for Iran regime change

WASHINGTON — A group of former senior government officials called on the Bush administration Thursday to adopt an "official policy of regime change" in Iran on grounds that it poses a threat to U.S. National Security.

The Iran Policy Committee, formed a month ago in an effort to influence government policy toward Iran. The committee is made up of former White House, State Department, Pentagon and CIA officials.

Legislation to limit lawsuits

WASHINGTON — Congress is only days away from handing President Bush and business groups a big victory by curbing multimillion-dollar class action lawsuits.

Despite complaints the legislation could hurt consumers, the Senate overwhelmingly passed the bill 72-26 on Thursday.

The House will take it up next week and send it to the president to sign into law.

From The Associated Press

**Best Selection
Best Prices**

**EURO
ANTIQUES**

**VALENTINE'S DAY
OPEN HOUSE**

Sat 12th 10:30-17:00
Sun 13th 14:00-17:00*
Mon 14th 10:30-17:00

Choose from the best
selection of top quality beautifully
restored French & English antique
furniture in the KMC area

We accept VAT, cash, checks,
and all major credit cards.
*viewing only

**Valentine's
Special
\$1=1€**

**Welher Str. 14
Ramstein-Miesenbach
Tel.: 06371-71616
E-mail: euroant@bunt.com
www.euro-antiques.de**

Tues - Fri 10:30 - 17:30
Sat 10:30 - 16:30
Sun 14:00 - 17:00 (viewing only)

Stars and Stripes Valentines Day Greetings

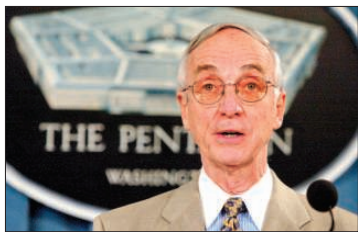
Valentines Day

Look for your greetings February 14th
in the Europe and Middle East editions

Messages sent to the Middle East
may also be viewed at www.stripes.com

Happy Valentine's Day
from Stars and Stripes

STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper



Secretary of the Navy Gordon England talks with reporters about the new personnel rules, which officials say are designed to update the current civil service system, during a news conference at the Pentagon on Thursday. England has led the effort to revamp the rules.

Unions to sue DOD over new pay plan

BY CHRISTOPHER LEE
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Five federal-employee unions announced Thursday that they will file a lawsuit next week in U.S. District Court challenging parts of the Defense Department's new personnel system.

The unions contend that Pentagon officials went against federal law by refusing to adequately consult with employees' representatives in developing the sections on labor-management issues. They also say that the National Security Personnel System would cut collective bargaining in violation of federal law.

"Instead of working with the longstanding representatives of the military's loyal civilian employees, the Pentagon apparently would rather duke this out in federal court," John Gage, president of the American Federation of Government Employees, said in a statement.

The other unions joining the suit include the Association of Civilian Technicians, the Laborers' International Union, the National Association of Government Employees and the National Federation of Federal Employees. Together, the five unions have about

250,000 members among the 750,000 civilian workers at the Defense Department, said Mark Roth, AFGE's general counsel.

Officials at the Pentagon and the Office of Personnel Management have defended the development of the system, saying it was a collaborative process that included a variety of viewpoints, including those of the unions.

Navy Secretary Gordon R. England, who oversees the effort, noted yesterday that officials had held more than 100 town-hall-style meetings with employees and had consulted more than 50 union groups.

In a news briefing yesterday, England said the new system would hold managers and employees more accountable for their performance, while giving the department more power over hiring, pay and the deployment of workers.

"If we want to hire specialty people today, it's a very lengthy process. This is a much more flexible and agile system."

The new work rules would replace the General Schedule with a system of "pay bands," or broad salary ranges attached to jobs newly grouped by occupation and skill level. Pay raises would be linked to annual job evaluations.

IN THE WORLD

Hundreds missing after dam burst

Pakistan confirms at least 54 dead

BY NASEER KAKAR
The Associated Press

QUETTA, Pakistan — Heavy rains caused a large dam to burst in a remote area of southwestern Pakistan, releasing a torrent of water that killed at least 54 people and left at least 400 others missing, officials said Friday.

Most of the dead were recovered by coast guard patrols sweeping the coast with fishing nets, provincial Cabinet minister Sher Jan Baluch said. Baluch said at least 400 people were still unaccounted for, and he feared the death toll would rise. Some of the missing might be taking shelter in homes, nearby mountains or other surrounding areas.

The 485-foot-long Shakidor Dam burst late Thursday near Pasi, a remote village in Baluchistan province, inundating the area with water.

More than 1,200 villagers already have been rescued from the floodwaters, said Mudassar Butt, an army spokesman in Quetta.

Thousands of troops, backed by helicopters and coast guard boats, have rushed to the area. Continued heavy rains have hampered efforts to find survivors, Baluch said.

Maj. Gen. Shaikat Sultan, the top spokesman for President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, refused to speculate on how many people may have died. Witnesses described seeing trucks and tankers swept out to sea.

The Shakidor dam was built in 2003 to help with irrigation in the area. More than a week of heavy rains has damaged telephone lines, roads and eight bridges in the area, Butt said.

He said troops diverted the flow of floodwaters to save other towns located near Pasi, about 400 miles south of Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan province.

Troops and local authorities also were supplying food, medicine and tents to the affected people in Pasi and elsewhere, he said.

Some 3,000 troops and paramilitary forces were participating in the rescue operation.

Pakistan navy personnel had also joined the rescue efforts.

Pakistan has been hit by more than a week of rain and snow, which in some parts of the country were the heaviest in seven years, said Qamar-uz-Zaman Chaudhry, the head of the nation's meteorological department. More severe weather was expected in the next two days, he said.



People look at breach on a road, caused by torrential rains in Muzaffarabad, capital of Pakistani Kashmir, on Friday. At least 54 people were dead and more than 400 missing after heavy rains caused a large dam to burst, sweeping villagers into the Arabian Sea, officials said.

U.S. rejects N. Korea's talks demand

The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — Washington rejected on Friday North Korea's demand for direct talks to defuse the high-stakes impasse with the world's newest declared nuclear power, after Pyongyang said it wanted the one-on-one dialogue as proof the United States has no hostile intentions toward it.

"It's not an issue between North Korea and the United States. It's a regional issue," said White House press secretary Scott McClellan in Washington.

The United States has repeatedly refused such talks with the North, which is changing its policy toward it, Han Sung Ryol, a senior diplomat at North Korea's U.N. delegation, told South Korea's Hanjoreung newspaper in a Thursday interview in New York.

The United States had reiterated on Thursday that it has no plans to invade or attack North Korea.

Han's comments were the first to outside media by a North Korean official since the country's Foreign Ministry publicly announced Thursday that the country has nuclear weapons and will indefinitely suspend its participation in nuclear talks.

S. Africa's Mbeki outlines economic plan in address

BY CLARE NULLIS
The Associated Press

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — In an upbeat state of the nation address, President Thabo Mbeki outlined plans to boost the economy and share the benefits with the black majority, but said little about the runaway AIDS epidemic and thorny foreign policy problems like Zimbabwe.

Fifteen years to the day since the release of then African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela after 27 years in prison, Mbeki declared that South Africa was on the way to becoming a "winning nation" which would play its role in the renewal of Africa.

In a pomp laden ceremony which included military bands and African drums, Mbeki made only a brief reference to the scandals shadowing his government. He said that there would be a summit on corruption in the next three months to "review experiences across all sectors of society."

At least 14 members of parliament and 13 former members face charges for allegedly defrauding parliament of \$2.8 million in a scam known as Travelgate.

South African Deputy President Jacob Zuma is at the center of a scandal that he accepted \$186,000 in bribes from a prominent banker, Schabir Shaik, who is currently on trial for fraud and corruption.

Patricia de Lille, leader of the small Independent Democrats, said previous anti-corruption summits had made no difference.

Instead, she said, far greater emphasis

should be placed on educating people to blow the whistle on corrupt officials.

On foreign policy, Mbeki signaled a continuation of South Africa's active — but quiet — diplomacy.

"We shall continue to work with the government and people of Zimbabwe ... to ensure that the elections they are to hold in less than two months are free and fair," he said.

The Zimbabwe opposition, the United States and others have expressed fears parliamentary elections set for March 31 will be beset by vote rigging and political violence by Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's party.

Mbeki voiced concern over instability in the Ivory Coast and other West African countries, and said the situation was being worsened by the "current unconstitutional charade in Togo," where the military installed Faure Gnassingbe as president just hours after the death of his father.

Mbeki's claim that South Africa's AIDS prevention and treatment plan was "among the best in the world" was greeted with widespread dismay.

"Last year we lost 300,000 people to AIDS," said Sipho Mthethi, deputy chairperson of the activist group, Treatment Action Campaign. "We feel the president doesn't give it the priority it deserves."

Turning to another top concern, Mbeki said that the level of violent crime remained unacceptable. But he said in the past year murder, theft and robbery had fallen even though other crimes like child abuse were on the rise.

Gibraltar talks held

MADRID, Spain — Three-way talks on the future of Gibraltar concluded Friday with an agreement between officials from Britain, Spain and the British colony to establish a working group to study future joint use of Gibraltar's airport, a Spanish foreign ministry official said.

Spanish annoyance over Britain's use of the tiny colony on Spain's southern tip for repairing nuclear submarines was also aired at the meeting in the southern Spanish city of Malaga.

At the moment, Gibraltar's airport is considered British, and Spain does not allow planes landing there to take off for resort destinations in southern Spain.

Ski lift dispute

BREGENZ, Austria — A German skier punched a ski teacher who tried to cut in line at a ski lift, breaking his nose, police said Friday.

The German apparently became agitated Thursday when the instructor and his class of seven skiers bypassed the line — as official ski schools are permitted to do — at a lift in the Walmengarten resort in the westernmost province of Vorarlberg.

The German skier and his companions descended down a slope, and a search for him has been fruitless, police said.

U.S., Ukraine meeting

KIEV, Ukraine — President Viktor Yushchenko met Friday with a U.S. congressional delegation that included two prominent U.S. senators who have nominated him for the Nobel Peace Prize.

The 11-member delegation that included Sen. Hillary Clinton and John McCain discussed ways to strengthen U.S.-Ukrainian relations, develop democratic values in this ex-Soviet state and the new government's plans to attract foreign investment, U.S. defense officials said.

Yushchenko and the U.S. delegation also discussed Ukraine's plans to withdraw its 1,650 peacekeepers from Iraq.

Abbas visits Gaza

RAMALLAH, West Bank — A day after firing his top security commanders, Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas headed to the Gaza Strip on Friday to demand that militant leaders stop attacking Israelis, a strong sign of his determination to enforce a fragile truce with Israel.

The central committee of Abbas' Fatah movement also announced a state of emergency in the Palestinian security forces aimed at preventing new attacks.

Israel praised Abbas' swift action but said it only had limited patience before taking matters into its own hands.

From The Associated Press

See more
world stories
on Page 15

South Africa
President
Thabo Mbeki
said little
about the
runaway
AIDS
epidemic.

Britons demurely welcome news of engagement

BY THOMAS WAGNER

The Associated Press

LONDON — The British media on Friday praised Prince Charles' decision to marry his longtime lover, Camilla Parker Bowles. But it also welcomed the fact that this ceremony will be far smaller than the wedding extravaganza of Prince Charles and Princess Diana in 1981.

To show that those days of royal adulation are over, one newspaper — the Independent — refused to carry Charles' announcement on page one, choosing instead to focus on many other news stories around the world under the headline "Here is the news you may have missed."

A new survey published in The Daily Telegraph on Friday said that while many Britons approve of the wedding, when Queen Elizabeth II one day dies or steps down, they don't want Prince Charles to replace her as Britain's monarch. They want his oldest son as the No. 1 royal.

In a country where some people believe the monarchy should be scrapped as an unelected remnant of Britain's ancient class system, the Daily Star tabloid couldn't decide which

way to go with its coverage of the Charles-Camilla wedding, scheduled for April 8 at Windsor Castle.

One front-page headline said: "Royal Wedding Souvenir Issue."

An even bigger one read: "Boring Old Gits to Wed."

If a consensus emerged in the mainstream press, it was that the British people should accept this down-to-earth marriage by a pragmatic couple of divorcees in their late 50s, one that will be nothing like the fairytales romance of Prince Charles and Princess Diana.

"The prince and Mrs. Parker Bowles are obviously extremely fond of each other, and it is quite natural that their shared affection should lead them to the altar," said a London Times editorial.

"This will obviously be a rather different form of royal wedding to those of the 1980s," it said.

During the lavish Charles-Diana wedding at St. Paul's Cathedral, a congregation of 3,000 attended, an estimated 1 million lined the streets outside, and a TV audience of around 700 million watched.

On April 8 at Windsor Castle, family, friends and staff will be invited to a "fairly private" ceremony. Television plans are unknown.

Prince Charles and Parker Bowles will wed in a civil ceremony and put the official seal on a relationship Diana blamed for the breakdown of her marriage to the man who would be king.

In a nod to those who have not warmed to Camilla, the royal family said Thursday she will never hold the title of queen.

The Daily Telegraph survey said that 65 percent of the respondents



AP photos

Britain's Prince Charles and Camilla Parker Bowles arrive at a party at Windsor Castle outside London on Thursday, following the official announcement of their engagement.

approve of the marriage, far higher than in earlier polls. Twenty-four percent said they shouldn't marry and 11 percent had no opinion.

However, when asked who should succeed Queen Elizabeth II when she steps down or dies, 41 percent chose Prince William.

Thirty-seven percent preferred Prince Charles, while 19 percent said Britain should have no monarch after the queen, and 3 percent said they didn't know.

The Daily Telegraph survey said that 65 percent of the respondents

approve of the marriage, far higher than in earlier polls. Twenty-four percent said they shouldn't marry and 11 percent had no opinion.

However, when asked who should succeed Queen Elizabeth II when she steps down or dies, 41 percent chose Prince William.

Thirty-seven percent preferred Prince Charles, while 19 percent said Britain should have no monarch after the queen, and 3 percent said they didn't know.

Royal bliss often sours

The Associated Press

PARIS — Many European royal marriages have been tainted by scandal, with illegitimate children, divorces, sordid affairs and tragedies.

No Briton can forget Princess Diana's split with Prince Charles and their respective love affairs — his with Parker Bowles, hers with former officer James Hewitt and others.

Monaco's Prince Rainier III never remarried after his Princess Grace — the stunning actress Grace Kelly — died in 1982 of injuries suffered in a car crash.

Their daughter Princess Stephanie's 1995 marriage to former bodyguard Daniel Ducruet collapsed a year later, after he was photographed frolicking with a stripper.

Belgium's King Albert II fathered a daughter out of wedlock. Dutch Prince Bernhard, the father of Queen Beatrix, was separated from his wife for awhile and fathered two illegitimate daughters. And Denmark announced last year that Prince Joachim and his wife, Princess Alexandra, were separating.

Attention Active Duty Military!

Earn Your Bachelor's Degree or MBA in Business Administration ONLINE at NO TUITION COST TO YOU!

Earn your Bachelor's Degree or MBA in Business Administration at NO TUITION COST TO YOU for up to 28 credits per year!

Earn your credits around TDY's and Deployments

Special MBA in Military Management for Graduates of ACSC, CGSC, CNCS, or MCCSC.

- Programs that meet your schedule needs
- All courses ONLINE!
- BSBA and MBA
- DANTES Affiliated
- Special rates for military spouses

NO TUITION COST TO YOU!

TOURO UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL

The University of Choice for the U.S. Military

www.tourou.edu

5665 Plaza Dr., Third Floor, Cypress, CA 90630
800-579-3161 • 714-816-0366 • 714-816-0367 Fax

College of Business Administration e-mail: info@coba.tourou.edu

For inquiries log on to: <http://inquiry.tourou.edu>



Now Accepting
Applications
for Spring
Session.

STRIPES RELOCATION GUIDE

SAN DIEGO
MIRAMAR AIR BASE • MARCH AFB • CAMP PENDLETON
Over 15 years experience
North County San Diego and South Riverside

Homebuyers Relocation Package
— including —
Maps • Loan Information • School Profiles
MLS Listings • Financing Help

Email: jzmeyer@acinc.net
Buck White (760) 271-3378
Debbie Meyer (760) 210-7965
Tim Rosa Realty

Denver-Aurora
Colorado Springs
Parker, Castle Rock, Monument, Lakewood

Colorado PCS Realty
FREE relocation kit home sales & VA loan information. Check our web site for FREE, temporary, furnished lodging available to our home buying customers.

Phil McMillan Broker-owner
Email: coloradopcscs@aol.com
USA 1-800-274-0578
www.coloradopcscs.com

FORT GORDON
GEORGIA (Or anywhere in the US)

Buyers Agent!
Augusta Home Buyer's Connection
See our website for homes, loan information, important area links

E-mail: broker@AugustaHomeBuyers.com
Call: 888-253-2707
www.AugustaMortgageSolutions.com
www.AugustaHomeBuyers.com

MOVING TO HAMPTON ROADS VA?
Langley AFB • Norfolk Naval Base
Yorktown • Norfolk • Hampton
Newport News • Williamsburg • Suffolk

Barbara and Ken Kerwin
Abbott Realty
1-800-721-5229
US 2Kerwin.com
www.2Kerwin.com
www.WeSellHamptonRoads.com

Fort Bragg & Pope AFB
www.fayettevilleopenhouse.com
1000's of Homes for Sale
1000's of Homes for Rent
100's of Pictorial Tours
FREE Real Estate Magazine

MOVING TO FLORIDA?
Want to have your own Real Estate agent at your service?

FREDDIE CAN HELP!
305-218-4969
Web: www.immobel.com/freddiewade
Email: freddiewade@bellsouth.net

30 min. or less commute!
FT. BRAGG POPE AFB
Live in the "Golf Capital"
Pinehurst, Southern Pines NC
Check out www.moorenc.com
Jim Murray, Ray Plumas @ncrr.com
800-828-5742 USA
Moore Co. Real Estate Brokers

COLORADO PCS? Fort Carson Fort Pecos Fort AFB
BUYER'S AGENT!
I work for you, not the seller.
new builds/existing homes/VA repos
You dream it, I'll find it!

Mark Stampe SFC, USA (Ret.)
century21homes@hotmail.com
1-800-727-6181 or call (719)382-3481

Northern VA, Quantico, DC
Bob Graham's Military Buyers Program
\$2,000 CASH BACK!
#1 Military Relocation Specialist
bbgnova@erols.com
www.bobgrahamvarelo.com
Free Relo Packet • Long and Foster

FLORIDA Coast to Coast
See our Fabulous New Website
www.TheEmetGroup.com
Our Real Estate and Mortgage Team Provides
• Personal Assistance Statewide
• Loan Qualification
• Mortgage Services
• Purchases, Refinancing, HELOC's

info@TheEmetGroup.com
Toll Free 866-856-6318

Walter & Susan Lemmon
Realty, Licensed Assistants
GLOBAL Mortgage

PCS-ing to WASHINGTON DC or Northern VIRGINIA?
Pentagon, Andrews, Ft. Belvoir, or Anywhere!
Call for a **FREE, comprehensive** Home Buyer's Relocation Package:
Maps, Loan Preapproval Information, School Profiles
Ask for Becky Berning: 703-913-7880
Call Toll Free:
Italy: 1 678 78158 UK: 0800 96 8801 Germany: 0800 181 6459
Netherlands: 0800 229 143 Belgium: 0800 713 777
www.MyMilitaryHomeFinder.com
e-mail: BECKY@longandfoster.com

Fort Bragg/Pope AFB
Retired Air Force member is willing to locate the right house for you and your family in the Fayetteville area. Contact me for referrals to other areas.
Mark Johnson@remax.net
Direct : (910)391-5804

Remax
Premier Properties
Major Mills

Fort Hood
Sales and Rentals • **FREE Relocation Packets**
CALL US Mike or Denise Zehr
"Years of Texas Friendly Service"
Toll Free: 800-826-4620
1-254-547-2019 506 Town Square Shopping Center
Coppens Cove, Texas 76522

First Community Mortgage
Tammy Thornhill
Assistant Vice President
Tammythornhill@1stmb.com
Tel. 254-542-5100
Toll Free, 01.308.18786
1st COMMUNITY MORTGAGE
COLONIAL ERA

www.zehrrealestateteam.com • zehrteam@earthlink.net

FORT JACKSON, SC
Real Estate **Military Relocation Team**
Bob Duker, USA, Ret. Mortgage **Cynthia Warner**

• Buyers Agent
• Relocation Package
• 40 page Homebuyers Guide
• School Test Scores
• Choose from 3,500 homes

Example
2450 SQ Ft New Home
\$125,900
4 or 5 BR, Garage

E-mail: duker@fortjacksonreale.com
Web site: www.fortjacksonreale.com

• Mortgage Specialist
• Loan qualifications now, before you PCS
• Advance estimates of monthly mortgage payment and funds to close
• 100% VA Loan
• Special loan programs for 100% financing

E-mail: cwarner@homeownersmtg.com
Germany Toll Free Anytime (800-225-5288) 800-447-3536

ARVA
Mortgage

Ft. Stewart & Hunter
SALES and RENTALS
Toll Free: 1-800-476-3680
www.fortstewart.com
Coldwell Banker Holtzman, Realtors
Email: cbholtzman@clcds.net
730 General Stewart Way • Hinesville, GA 31313

COLDWELL BANKER

Fort Lewis Housing
www.fortlewishousing.com

Fort Lewis Housing
www.fortlewishousing.com

Home Buyers Guide Homes for Sale VA Mortgages
Testimonials Fort Lewis Info Maps
Govt Repos Why Buyer's Agent? Contact Us

CALL 1-360-491-6500

FORT LEWIS INFO
ARRIVAL
UNITS
SCHOOL INFO
CLASSIFIEDS
LOCAL AREA

STRIPES RELOCATION GUIDE

**Ft Jackson ★ Shaw AFB ★ Charleston AFB
Beaufort MCAS ★ Parris Island ★ Naval Hosp**

HOME BUYER REPRESENTATION SPECIALISTS

Buyers: "We work to get you the best price & terms"

"One stop shopping"~We handle it all

Loan Approval • Negotiations • Inspections • Insurance • Closing

Call George: 1-800-310-5112 weekends are OK or

george@schomebuyer.com or www.schomebuyer.com

Ask for: Relocation Pkg. info on Schools, Area & Jobs

Home Buyer Representation Realty, Inc. **NO FEES!**

Going Home? Get a PCS Loan!

For a fast loan...



click here! www.yesomni.com

UMRC

Cash Back To Buyers

3 Free Nights In Hotel

PCSing to FORT HOOD

Ft. Bragg, Ft. Campbell, Ft. Stewart, Ft. Lewis, Ft. Knox...

FREE RELOCATION INFORMATION

Call Chris Roussel

Coldwell Banker United, Realtors

2705-E Highway 180, Copper Cove, TN 37522

Call Toll Free: 1-800-100-2106 • E-Mail: croussel@cbunited.com

First National Bank, Lenders • Servicing Information • VA Home Loan Program

Pre-qualify with National Bank Mortgage • Toll Free: 1-800-882-4032

Lee Huffer • FDIC/Equal Housing Lender

Fort Polk

www.coldwellbanker.com

- New Home Construction
- Serving Deridder and Leesville
- Free Relocation Information

COLDWELL BANKER

Contact Me Today!

Wayne Hall

Broker/Owner

waynehall@yahoo.com

(337) 463-9994



The Kitty Bernard Team

would like to say "Thank You" to all our service men and women for the sacrifices you've made to keep us safe & free

For the Best professional Real Estate Service in Northern Virginia call:

The Kitty Bernard Team

(703) 707-2084

www.KittyBernard.com

email: Kitty@KittyBernard.com

1801 Reason Pkwy., #400, Reston, Virginia 20190

"Let us help you find a place to call Home"

COLORADO

Ft. Carson-NORAD-Air Force Academy-Peterson & Schriever AFB

NEW BUILT or RESALE? • FIRST TIME HOME BUYER?

RELOCATION PACKAGE FOR HOME BUYERS

"CHECK OUT OUR BIG \$\$\$ SPECIAL!"

PETRA HAEBICH

Broker Associate

RE/MAX PARTNERS, Inc.

Petrahaebich@REMAX.net

www.PetraHaebich.com

We'll get you Pre-Approved BEFORE you move!

Professional Service • Personal Touch



DWIGHT HOWARD
Branch Manager
RBC MORTGAGE

FOR KNOX

CALL GENE & ERIKA GUDENKAUF

TOLL FREE FOR YOU:

1-800-181-6612

One Call Does It All!

Free Relocation Packet • VA Homes

Property Rentals • New Homes

FIND:

Local Listings • School Reports

Loan Pre-Qualification and more!

By visiting us at:

www.area-home.com

or email us at:

gudenkauf@remax.net

Teamwork that makes your dream work!

Gene & Erika Gudenkauf
RE/MAX Advantage +
1-888-470-7089
705 N. Dixie Highway
Ridgely, KY 40160

PCSing to Northern VA?

contact

ISABELLE OLSON

your military relocation specialist

• specializing in military transfers

• military spouse

• french/german speaking

• ask about my special military buyers program

DEVOTED TO PERSONALIZED QUALITY SERVICE

Century 21

001 540 659 1450 ext.213

email: isabelleolson@msis.com

www.homesdatabase.com/isabelle



COLORADO

PCSing to Colorado Springs?

Call Christa Miranda

or Tiffany Aides (Assistant)

A 26 year Military Family

moving Mountains to make

your Real Estate Dreams come true.

German Speaking.

Toll Free: 1-866-539-2588 • Cell: 719-351-5963

Email: christa.miranda@coldwellbanker.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

www.CheyenneMountainRealty.com

NORTHERN VIRGINIA

• Pentagon • Ft. Belvoir • Quantico

Let Me Be Your Sponsor

PCSing to the D.C. metropolitan area?

I can find your home in Northern Virginia.

• Unique Cash Back Program to home buyers.

• Military Relocation Specialist. I understand the challenges of the military family. I've relocated nine times, including overseas, as a 15 year Army spouse.

• Mortgages available through Sandhills Bank.

Shawn Yurkani (703) 547-1100

Email: sy@sandhills-bank.com

• Information on schools and local communities available.

• Free Relocation Packet.

Contact Me TODAY!

Carolyn Capalbo

www.just4real.com

Samson Realty, LLC

www.just4real.com

email: info@just4real.com

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

(703) 477-6022

Log On and Pre-Qualify for FREE!

1-800-947-8153

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

truliant.com is a service of National Bank

Washington, D. C. Area

& Northern Virginia

Free 200 Page Book

"How to Buy Your Home,

Without Getting Ripped Off"

Area Maps, Newspapers

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons

SENIOR CITIZENS IN 2005



MIKE PETERS/King Features Syndicate



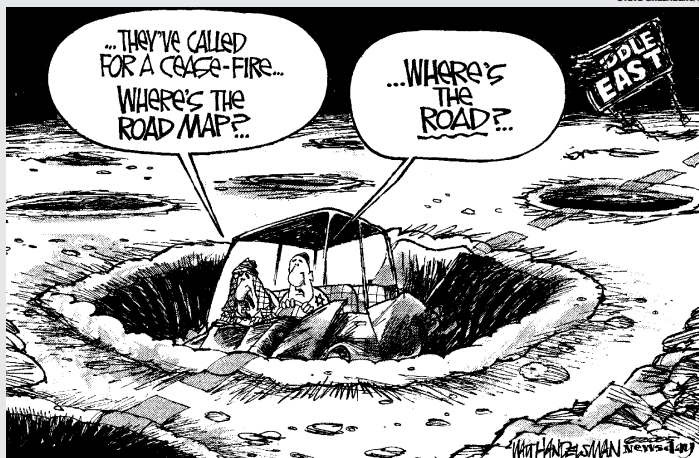
CHARLIE DANIEL/Scripts Howard



KEVIN KALLAUGHER/Cartoonists & Writers Syndicate



STEVE GREENBERG/Scripts Howard



WALTH HANDELMAN/Tribune Media Services

YOUR MONEY

New ideas for juggling multiple passwords

BY HEATHER NEWMAN
Knight Ridder Newspapers

People of the world, unite against your proliferating piles of passwords! It's time to end the tyranny of having a PIN for the bank, another code for your voice mail, a password for Windows, a pass code for each of your favorite Web sites and a separate password for each of your e-mail accounts.

What makes passwords difficult to manage is how many different ones most people have to use. Experts tell us that we shouldn't use the same password for everything, but because of the hassle in making up and remembering different passwords, many people do just that.

A survey a couple of years ago by JupiterResearch, a technology consulting firm, showed that more than half the people surveyed used the same password on every Web site.

Don't be one of them, unless you only visit nonsecure sites.

Using the same password to read two online publications doesn't pose the risk of, say, having your Internet access password the same as the one that gets you onto your online banking Web site.

Unfortunately, the things that make passwords strong — combinations of upper and lowercase letters, numbers, words that aren't in the dictionary or aren't easily guessed from your



life (parts of your name, your kids' names, your pets' names) — are the things that make them so hard to remember.

So what should you do when you have 20 places that require their own passwords? First, consider automating the easy stuff.

If a Web site or a program is low-security enough that you feel comfortable using the same simple password on it (like your

dog's name), use Internet Explorer's built-in auto fill function to remember those passwords or use a hardware device to bypass them.

Consider investing in a fingerprint reader to replace the process of filling in passwords. There are readers for \$50 or so.

Home fingerprint readers are not designed for use with very high-security sites containing fi-

nancial information or other personal details.

That's because the software for the readers stores your passwords — in an encoded format — on the hard drive of your computer.

An extremely determined hacker could potentially decipher them, though it's surely more secure than keeping your passwords on Post-it notes stuck on the side of your monitor.

Password management programs abound on the Net, ranging from ones that just store lists you refer to in address book format to automation programs that fill in forms and Web site password boxes for you. The former is also available for handheld computers.

Chief Petty Officer Kenneth Ewing of Detroit is helped by Petty Officer 2nd Class Matthew Materra of Narragansett, R.I., in changing his shipboard account password. Sailors aboard the USS Kitty Hawk — currently under way but permanently based at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan — are provided a shipboard account that gives them access to e-mail, Internet and logistical support for maintenance. Experts advise computer users to vary passwords and use a combination of numbers and letters. The trick is remembering them all.

BENJAMIN DENNIS
Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

For a selection, hit www.dawnload.com and search for "password."

The programs are typically free for personal use. But again, you'll be storing your information on your hard drive, even if it is encoded, so make sure you feel comfortable with that.

For passwords you don't want to store, consider making them different but related in some way in structure so they are easy for you to remember.

For instance, your financial site's password might combine your bank PIN with the amount of your childhood allowance and the first four letters of the name of the financial company involved in the site or account you're protecting.

THURSDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES				
52-week High	Low	Name	Net Chg	% Chg
10,630.81	1,008.40	Dow Jones Industrial	10,740.63	+65.50 +1.52
3,822.38	2,743.46	Dow Jones Transportation	3,567.05	-4.11 -0.68
55.46	259.86	Dow Jones Utilities	351.20	+1.34 +0.36
7,717.18	6,211.33	NYSE Composite	7,210.05	+46.68 +0.64
1,477.33	1,159.74	AMEX Index	1,483.00	+1.01 +0.08
2,101.16	1,750.82	Nasdaq Composite	2,053.10	+5.52 +0.26
1,217.00	1,060.72	S&P 500	1,197.01	+5.02 +0.42
546.29	547.29	S&P MidCap	555.93	+2.77 +0.51
656.11	515.90	Russell 2000	626.81	+1.10 +0.18
12,054.36	10,358.52	DJ Wilshire 2000	11,767.24	+47.80 +0.41

NYSE					AMEX					NASDAQ				
Most Active (\$1 or more)					Most Active (\$1 or more)					Most Active (\$1 or more)				
Name	Vol	Net Chg	% Chg		Name	Vol	Net Chg	% Chg		Name	Vol	Net Chg	% Chg	
Alcoa	243,632	3.28	+0.01		SPDR	447,742	10.74	+0.41		Nasdaq100	990,588	37.15	+0.44	
Amgen	257,736	11.48	+0.01		Sealed	77,702	27.78	+0.37		MicroCap	74,768	26.86	+0.37	
Boeing	248,908	25.24	+0.01		SPDR	72,630	38.33	+0.29		Intel	792,738	22.50	+0.20	
Boonville	248,908	25.24	+0.01		SPDR	72,630	38.33	+0.29		Microsoft	749,280	43.77	+0.59	
Northrup	201,446	1.05	+0.01		SPDR	57,112	40.17	+0.37		Oracle	729,238	27.50	+0.20	
Sealed	1,884	25.24	+0.01		SPDR	57,112	40.17	+0.37		IBM	749,280	43.77	+0.59	
Amgen	107,717	12.50	+0.01		SPDR	57,112	40.17	+0.37		800	855	10.00	+0.01	
Boonville	107,717	12.50	+0.01		SPDR	57,112	40.17	+0.37		Apple	439,661	11.14	+0.03	
Boonville	107,717	12.50	+0.01		SPDR	57,112	40.17	+0.37		Apple	439,661	11.14	+0.03	
Boonville	107,717	12.50	+0.01		SPDR	57,112	40.17	+0.37		Apple	439,661	11.14	+0.03	
Boonville	107,717	12.50	+0.01		SPDR	57,112	40.17	+0.37		Apple	439,661	11.14	+0.03	

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS				
Name	Vol	FE	Net Chg	% Chg
Alliant Techsystems	1	67.75	+0.52	+0.77
Aerojet Rocketdyne	100	44.76	+0.11	+0.24
Boeing	1,000	52.05	+0.28	+0.54
Boonville	100	61.79	+0.28	+0.45
Boonville	100	61.79	+0.28	+0.45
Boonville	100	61.79	+0.28	+0.45
Boonville	100	61.79	+0.28	+0.45
Boonville	100	61.79	+0.28	+0.45
Boonville	100	61.79	+0.28	+0.45
Boonville	100	61.79	+0.28	+0.45
Boonville	100	61.79	+0.28	+0.45

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS				
Name	NAV	NAV	NAV	% Chg
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95
Fidelity Invest: Global	37.71	+0.14	+0.37	+0.95

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs	\$1,3190
Dollar buys	1,000.00
British pound	1.52
Japanese yen (Feb. 12)	103.00
South Korean won (Feb. 9)	1,000.00
Commercial rates	
Bahraini (Dinar)	\$1,7699
British pound	\$1,5669
Canada (Dollar)	1.2402
Denmark (Krone)	\$1,5460
Egypt (Pound)	\$1,7870
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.9922
Hungary (Forint)	100.88
Iceland (Krona)	62.805
Israel (Shekel)	4.3802
Japan (Yen)	105.80
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2019
Norway (Krone)	46.19
Philippines (Peso)	26.19
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.58
Singapore (Dollar)	1.5514
South Korea (Won)	1,037.00
Switzerland (Frank)	1.2402
Thailand (Baht)	38.57
Thailand (Baht)	38.57
Thailand (Baht)	38.57
Thailand (Baht)	38.57
Thailand (Baht)	38.57
Thailand (Baht)	38.57
Thailand (Baht)	38.57
Thailand (Baht)	38.57
Thailand (Baht)	38.57
Thailand (Baht)	38.57

(i.e. purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are inter-bank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS		
London close		
Gold		\$421.00
Silver		\$7.18

INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	5.50
Discount rate	3.50
Federal funds market rate	2.50
3-month bill	2.52
30-year bond	4.47
Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America	

Cents and Sensibility
Money tip of the day

Valentine's shopping list

The Washington Post

Technically, Valentine's Day is about love, lust and affection, but it's also an excuse to shop. "Get a gift that's nice and you'd want to use every day, not one that screams hearts and flowers," says Charla Krupp, executive editor of Shop Etc. magazine.

Here are five ideas for Valentine's Day that won't pass their expiration date on Feb. 15 (like, say, heart-shaped chocolates or teddy bears):

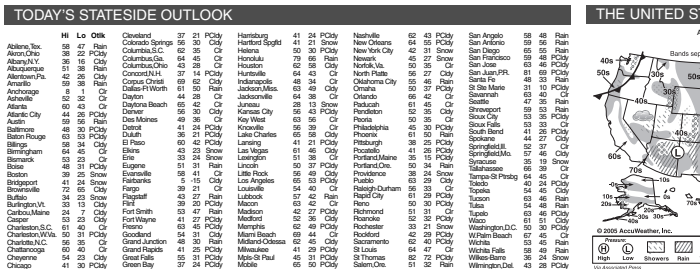
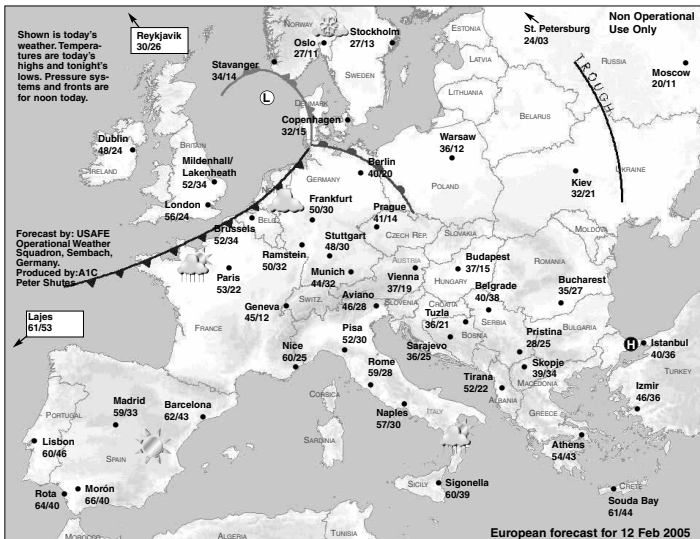
■ Something that smells good: Buy a perfume or cologne your spouse/date/lover can use every day. With every whiff they'll think of you.

■ Something to travel with: A gift that says, "I promise to take you on more romantic weekends this year."

■ Something comfy: A Friday night in with a movie and a pair of sweat pants is definitely love-dovey. Comfy clothes read: "I'm comfortable with us."

■ Something red: Red does not equal love. Traditionalists can say Happy Valentine's Day without lack of sparkle.

■ Something sparkly: You can never go wrong with jewelry. Try something small and special. Or something he's always wanted. Mark the occasion by getting it engraved.



EUROPEAN FORECAST

BeneLux: Cloudy with rain showers and gusty winds. Highs in the mid-40s to lower 50s. Sunday lows in the mid-20s to lower 30s.

Britain, Ireland: Cloudy with isolated rain showers and gusty winds. Highs in the upper 40s to upper 50s. Sunday lows in the mid-20s to mid-30s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Mostly cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the mid to upper 20s. Sunday lows in the lower to mid-20s.

France: Mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers. Highs in the lower 50s to lower 60s. Sunday lows in the lower to mid-20s.

Northern Germany: Cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the lower 40s to lower 50s. Sunday lows in the lower 20s to lower 30s.

Southern Germany: Cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the 40s. Sunday lows in the lower 30s.

Hungary: Mostly cloudy with snow showers. Highs in the upper 30s. Sunday lows in the mid-20s.

Northern Italy: Cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the mid-40s to mid-50s. Sunday lows in the upper 20s to lower 30s.

Southern Italy: Mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers. Highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s. Sunday lows in the upper 20s to upper 30s.

Kosovo: Mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers. Highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Sunday lows in the upper teens to mid-20s.

Norway: Cloudy with snow showers. Highs in the upper 20s to mid-30s. Sunday lows in the lower to mid-20s.

Portugal, Spain: Sunny. Highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s. Sunday lows in the mid-30s to mid-40s.

Turkey: Mostly cloudy with isolated rain showers. Highs in the lower 40s to lower 50s along the coasts and lower to mid-30s inland. Sunday lows in the mid-20s to mid-30s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts for the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at: <https://www.sembach.af.mil> <http://www.public.sembach.af.mil>

SUN & MOON



Scheduled to

ETS

or PBS

?

Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.

STARS AND STRIPES

Your Hometown Newspaper

Suspect hooked

MINNEAPOLIS — A man was indicted in a string of bank robberies carried out by the Fishing Hat Bandit.

John Douglas Whitrock, 56, was charged with 21 counts of bank robbery and the count of attempted robbery.

Investigators said he was the holdup man in a floppy hat who stole more than \$87,000 in a rash of robberies in the Twin Cities area from 2003 to 2005.

He was arrested Jan. 7 after a robbery at a credit union in Edina.

Hikers show up

LOS ANGELES — Two hikers reported missing on Mount Baldy reappeared, sparing rescuers from what was shaping up to be a difficult mission.

Clay Senecal, 23, and Jonathan Lemkin, 43, both of Los Angeles, returned to the base of the mountain under their own power 15 hours after they had been reported missing. They were taken to Bernardino County sheriff's offices.

After heavy fog closed in, the pair decided it would be safer to spend the night on the mountain and hike back in the morning, sheriff's department spokeswoman Robin Haynal said.

Senecal and Lemkin emerged "cold and tired, but otherwise in good shape," according to sheriff's spokesman Chip Patterson.

A horse named Tyson?

AUGUSTA — A man whose car was bitten partially off by a stallion in a roadside pasture has filed a lawsuit against the Palermo stable owners for failing to warn passers-by the stallion was dangerous.

Paul Knickle says Dusty and Pamela Haskell should have known their stallion was dangerous and kept him away from a public road, according to a lawsuit filed on Knickle's behalf.

"He will need some cosmetic surgery and replacement of a piece of ear," said Jeffrey T. Edwards, Knickle's attorney.

According to the lawsuit, Knickle stopped to look at the livestock in corrals and feed carrots to the stallion. The stallion attacked Knickle as he stood on the public road, the lawsuit alleges.

J. William Drury Jr., the Haskell's attorney, said Knickle did not have permission to feed the horse.

Mayor: Air still dirty

HOUSTON — State environmental officials say they are working to reduce high levels of pollution in neighborhoods near industrial plants in parts of Harris County.

However, Houston Mayor Pro Tem Carol Alvarado told them she did not think they were taking the issue seriously enough.

"Frankly, I just don't know if you guys," Alvarado said Monday at a special City Council meeting concerning high concentrations of pollutants in Houston's air.

It was the first public appearance in the city of officials from

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality since they released data that showed some residents are at a greater risk of cancer from air pollutants.

The TCEQ officials said they have acted in communities where monitors showed high concentrations of pollution in 2003. They said they would keep working until the levels were safe.

Repair money drying up

DETROIT — Money earmarked for road repairs is in jeopardy as parts of Michigan clean up after one of the heaviest January snowfalls on record.

Road officials in the southeast Michigan counties of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb estimate that their departments have used up as much as 75 percent of their winter maintenance funds. They say more heavy snow could curtail Detroit-area repair projects.

Blinded by blue lights

BOSTON — It's no helicopter ride to the Berkshires, but Lt. Gov. Kerry Healey acknowledged she was wrong to allow a state trooper to whisk her through traffic with blue lights flashing when there was no emergency.

Healey was en route to an ap-

pearance in Newton when her car hit stop-and-go traffic on Route 128 in Burlington. Her state police chauffeur used his emergency lights to force other motorists out of the way.

Healey told WBZ-AM the decision to use the emergency lights was made by her driver. "So in the future, I'm going to be much more observant about ... the decisions being made by the trooper," she said.

Truly well-preserved

MILWAUKEE — Betty Ann Fischer has been old enough to buy liquor for more than 50 years. So the 71-year-old was a little surprised when a grocery store clerk asked her for some ID before selling her a bottle of wine.

The identification checks at all Pick 'N Save and Copps food stores in Wisconsin are part of a new policy by Roundy's Inc. requiring cashiers to check the age of everyone buying cigarettes or alcohol — regardless of whether they look 21 or 91.

"The first time it was a sweet young man, and I laughed because I thought he was trying to pay me a sweet compliment. But then he said, 'No I'm serious,'" Fischer said. "I thought he was just joshing with me."

Roundy's said it started its "We Care Because We Care" program in its 77 stores in Wisconsin, nearly all of which are Pick 'N Save or Copps, to prevent underage drinking and tobacco use and to help local law enforcement. Instead, the policy has generated complaints from customers, newspaper columnists and even city officials.

Election loss conceded

NC **RALEIGH** — The state agriculture commissioner conceded defeat in his re-election bid, months after a machine error left the contest in doubt.

The State Board of Election certified Republican Steve Troder as the winner over incumbent Democrat Britt Cobb using the original results from the Nov. 2 election, giving Troder 2,287 more votes than Cobb, out of more than 3.3 million cast.

"I think I could have gone through an appeals process for a long, long time," Cobb said. "But it was time for closure."

Licensed for mischief

SAND LAKE — A boy drove his mother's car to a video store in the middle of the night, police said — and he's all of 4 years old.

Unable to reach the accelerator, the boy managed to put the car in gear and make his way to the store, a quarter-mile from his home, at about 1:30 a.m., Sand Lake Police Chief Doug Heugel said. Finding the store closed, the youngster began a slow trip home.

Weaving and with his headlights off, the car got the attention of Officer Jay Osga. He flipped on his lights when the car turned into the apartment complex and took two parked cars. The boy put the car in reverse and struck Osga's cruiser.

No charges will be filed against the boy or his mother, Heugel said.



Settling in

Knobi, a 25-year-old female orangutan, checks out her new home at the Great Ape Trust of Iowa, in Des Moines. Knobi came from the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha, Neb.



Chilly dip

An unidentified woman takes a dip in Lake Ontario during the 5th Annual Polar Bear Plunge to raise money for the Special Olympics New York athletes, at Ontario Beach Park's Charlotte Beach in Rochester, N.Y. SONY set a new record with over 400 people participating, and raised more than \$53,000.



McNuptials

Robert Kunkle puts a wedding ring on Yuki Sawa-da, as the two get married at a McDonald's in Brookhillsville, Pa. Robert, who is taking his wife's last name, said the two got married at the fast-food restaurant because they "wanted something different."



Retrofitted into art

A worker places museum lights behind a sculpture of welded steel and paint called "Kotoko" at the Museum of Fine Arts in Springfield, Mass. The piece is one of five in Springfield from "Tools as Art: The Hechinger Collection," works of art in sculpture, painting, photography and drawings owned by hardware industry pioneer John W. Hechinger.



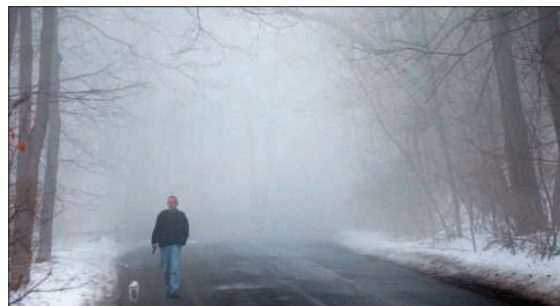
Moving tribute

Jim Ellsworth, right, and his brother, Preston Ellsworth, prepare the front of Preston's 1962 Chevrolet Bel Air for the final portion of a giant vinyl decal of famous African Americans, in Kansas City, Kan. Jim's company, Foto FX, produces the oversized graphic images and other advertising products. "We'd like to take the car around to schools as an educational tool to acknowledge the achievements of Black America's past," said Jim.



Daddy's limbo girl

Keith Hanson, right, of Boca Raton, Fla., watches as his 14-year-old daughter, Katherine, shuffles her way under a sponge limbo bar at the Boynton Beach Women's Club annual father-daughter dance in Boynton Beach, Fla.



Can't see the forest for the fog

Leo Perrault walks his dog down a foggy road in Brighton, N.Y.

Protecting pets' parts

CA WEST HOLLYWOOD — Leaders in this community known for its progressive views are trying to ban cosmetic surgery — for pets.

Mayor John Duran introduced a motion earlier this week that would prohibit ear cropping, tail docking, debarking, defanging and other surgical procedures performed on animals for "noncurative" reasons.

Such procedures, supporters say, hurt the animals to satisfy their owners' tastes. Already law in many European countries, the ban would be the first of its kind in the United States, Duran said.

Orange you clever?

ME BANGOR — A University of Maine graduate student is using hundreds of navel oranges to learn more about circulation patterns in the Gulf of Maine and how they effect the ecology of seaweed.

Jessica Muhlin, 25, found that the genetic structure of brown algae growing in three spots along the Seaside Peninsula were the same, but was different at a fourth site. She wondered if circulation patterns were affecting the plant's genetic structure.

So she bought 500 oranges last fall, put an e-mail address and phone number on each one three weeks later by a lobbyistman more than 30 miles away.

The Acadia National Park Service found two the next day. Four more were spotted to the north in Wonspeak Harbor. Another was retrieved three weeks later by a lobbyistman more than 30 miles away.

In all, 54 of the oranges were found. "With the volume of ocean... I was amazed that I got any information back," Muhlin said.

Man outwits lawyer

NY NEW YORK — A grand jury delivered the punch line for a senior citizen charged with disorderly conduct after telling lawyer jokes outside a Long Island courthouse: charge dismissed. No kidding.

On Monday, Harvey Kash, 70, testified before the grand jury that he was expressing his First Amendment rights in sharing a few lawyer jokes with a friend, Carl Lanziera, 65, as they stood on line waiting to get into the Nassau County Courthouse last month.

"How do you tell when a lawyer is lying?" Kash had asked Lanziera. "His lips are moving," they howled in unison.

They say a lawyer farther up in the line told them to "shut up" and reported them to court officers, who arrested them.

One ripe cheesehead

WI GREEN BAY — A Connecticut boy has been making good use of his Christmas present.

Since opening the gift — a Green Bay Packers jersey with quarterback Brett Favre's No. 4 — on Christmas Day 2003, 8-year-old David Witthoft has worn it 408 straight days.

"I just kept doing it for fun," said Witthoft, of Ridgefield, Conn. "Some of the kids at school said, 'You are weird' and stuff. But I'm not sure when I'll stop."

Witthoft told the Green Bay Press-Gazette that he wants a Guinness Book of Records mark for the most consecutive days wearing a Packers jersey.

The jersey isn't holding up as well as the boy's enthusiasm: The No. 4 has all but worn off and the seams are taking a beating.

2 charged in drug scam

MO KANSAS CITY — Two men have been charged in a multimillion dollar scheme to sell counterfeit and illegally imported Lipitor. Three others have already been convicted in the plot.

A federal grand jury on Tuesday indicted Gregory Brocco, 38, of New York City, and Richard Goodman, 40, of Miami, on charges of conspiring to sell fake and illegally imported versions of the cholesterol-reducing drug.

Albers Medical Distributors Inc., of Kansas City, paid more than \$12.8 million for the illegal pharmaceuticals, U.S. Attorney Todd Graves said.

The conspirators allegedly bought genuine Lipitor intended for distribution in South America and illegally imported it into the United States. They shipped equipment and chemicals to Costa Rica and Honduras to manufacture counterfeit Lipitor.

Corn fuel pushed

IA DES MOINE — Supporters of ethanol say they want the state to require that gasoline sold in Iowa be blended with the corn-distilled alcohol, setting the stage for a battle with the petroleum industry.

Iowa Sen. President Jack Kibbie has drafted legislation that would require gas be mixed with at least 10 percent ethanol.

Ethanol is used as a fuel additive that reduces vehicle emissions and improves performance. Critics of the Iowa legislation argue that the ethanol industry is heavily subsidized and survives only through the clout of the farm lobby.

Tax credit disputed

SC COLUMBIA — Gov. Mark Sanford's proposal to give tax credits to parents who send their children to private schools would take \$354 million from public schools, according to a report released by public school officials.

The report found each school district would lose \$4 million on average if the tax credit was fully implemented in five years. The report counters one last year by Clemson University professor who said public schools would save \$600 for each student who left for private schools.

Pilot survives ice-capade

VT CHITTENDEN — Engine trouble forced a pilot from Barre to set his plane down on the frozen and snow-covered surface of Chittenden Reservoir.

Andre H. Chouinard, 74, the pilot, and only person aboard the single-engine Cessna plane, was not injured. The aircraft also avoided damage in the emergency landing.

"After it landed, I said to myself, 'How lucky can a guy get,'" Chouinard said. "You always figure it's never going to happen to you, but by golly, I'll tell you this was an eye-opener."

The reservoir had a few inches of snow on top of more than a foot of ice. Chouinard said the snow on the reservoir made for a manageable, if somewhat bumpy, landing for the roughly 1,200-pound plane.

Stories and photos from wire services

AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2005

(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:00 Static Shock (R)	8:49 Movie • • • "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	Danny Phantom	Access Hollywood	Nightline	Boxing Friday Night Fights. (Taped)	Clean House	Access Hollywood
9:30 Wins Out (E)	9:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	Drake & Josh "Little Diva"	Headline News	Headline News	BBO with Bobby Flay	Headline News	Headline News
10:00 Teen Titans (R)	9:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	Switched	Headline News	Headline News	S&B-eDay	Headline News	Headline News
10:30 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	10:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	Focus on the Force	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
11:00 Dragonball GT	10:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	Focus on the Force	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
11:30 Justice League	11:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	American Adventure	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
12:00 Ken Kids News (E)	11:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	Access Hollywood	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
12:30 Cyberchase "Cyberchase"	12:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	WWE Raw	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
13:00 Trading Space: Boy-Girl	12:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
13:30 Scoop's Safari: "Live to Play"	13:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
14:00 Planet's Funniest Animals	13:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
14:30 Wild America	14:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
15:00 The Most Extreme "Daredevil"	14:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
15:30 The Most Extreme "Daredevil"	15:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
16:00 Hercules: The Legendary Journeys "Highway to Hades"	15:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
16:30 Doug (E)	16:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
17:00 The Wild Thornberryes	16:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
17:30 The Fairly OddParents	17:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
18:00 Rugrats	17:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
18:30 Movie "The Pool Party" (2001)	18:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
19:00 Comedy! Matt Curry, Tah Mowry, Dawnn Lewis	18:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
20:00 Movie • • • "My Dog Skip" (2000, Drama) Frankie Muniz, Diane Lane, Luke Wilson	19:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
21:00 American Idol	19:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
22:00 American Idol	20:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
23:00 American Idol	20:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
23:30 American Idol	21:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
24:00 Futurama "Love & Rocket"	21:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
00:30 Futurama "Love & Rocket"	22:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
1:00 Movie "The Pool Party" (2001)	22:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
1:30 Comedy! Matt Curry, Tah Mowry, Dawnn Lewis	23:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
2:00 Movie • • • "My Dog Skip" (2000, Drama) Frankie Muniz, Diane Lane, Luke Wilson	23:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
3:00 The Fairly OddParents	00:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
4:00 Rugrats	00:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
4:30 Sesame Street (E)	01:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
5:00 Barney & Friends (E)	01:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
5:30 Barney & Friends (E)	02:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
6:00 Scooby Doo	02:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
6:30 Scooby Doo	03:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
7:00 Scooby Doo	03:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
7:30 Scooby Doo	04:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
8:00 The Magic School Bus (E)	04:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
8:30 The Magic School Bus (E)	05:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
9:00 House of Mouse	05:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
9:30 Animaniacs	06:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
10:00 Ed, Edd & Eddy	06:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
10:30 Fillmore (E)	07:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
11:00 Out There	07:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
11:30 Planet's Funniest Animals	08:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
12:00 NBA Inside Stuff (E)	08:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
12:30 Happy Days "Crusin'"	09:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
13:00 "Movie • • • 'Shrek' (2001)	09:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
13:30 Comedy! Voice of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy	10:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
14:00 "Movie • • • 'Cinderella' (1997)	10:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
14:30 "Movie • • • 'Cinderella' (1997)	11:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
15:00 "Movie • • • 'Cinderella' (1997)	11:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
15:30 "Movie • • • 'Cinderella' (1997)	12:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
16:00 Doug "Doug's Dream House"	12:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
16:30 The Wild Thornberryes	13:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
17:00 The Fairly OddParents	13:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
17:30 Rugrats	14:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
18:00 Marvin Marvin Spies "Bul Shrink! Bul Shrink!"	14:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
18:30 America's Funniest Home Videos	15:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
19:00 America's Funniest Home Videos	15:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
19:30 Dinopets (Part 2 of 3)	16:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
20:00 Dinopets (Part 2 of 3)	16:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
21:00 "Movie • • • 'Never Been Kissed' (1999)	17:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
21:30 "Movie • • • 'Never Been Kissed' (1999)	17:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
22:00 The Coolest Show	18:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
22:30 Movie Improvement	18:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
23:00 Movie Improvement	19:00 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News
23:30 Movie Improvement	19:30 "Men in Black II" (1996) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith	According to Jim	Headline News	Headline News	Jackie Collins Presents	Headline News	Headline News

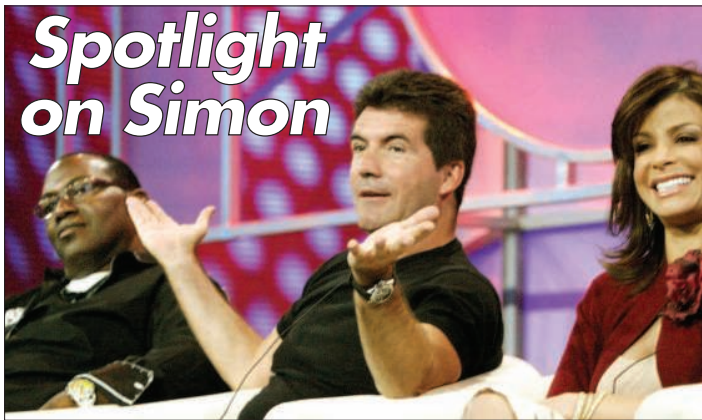


Read Stripes online at

www.strikes.com

STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

FACES



Simon Cowell, center, speaks to the media Jan. 17 with fellow "American Idol" judges Randy Jackson, left, and Paula Abdul at the Television Critics Association winter press tour in Los Angeles. The acid-tongued Cowell and "Idol" recently began their fourth season on Fox.

Music biz veteran Cowell not resting on 'Idol' stardom

BY JILL LAWLESS
The Associated Press

LONDON — After more than two decades working his way up — behind the scenes — in the music industry, Simon Cowell sits center stage.

Cowell's withering outpourings of the over-confident and undertalented — first on Britain's "Pop Idol," then on "American Idol," which began its fourth season in the States on Jan. 18 — have made him a celebrity on both sides of the Atlantic.

They also have made him very rich. He's worth a reported \$85 million, thanks partly to a deal that lets him sign "Pop Idol" winners to his own record label. ("Idol" creator Simon Fuller handles their management and merchandising).

Cowell's success is built on a highly televisual personality, plus a business that has attracted and appalled millions of viewers and seen him nicknamed "Mr. Nastiness" by the press.

"You sang like a ventriloquist's dummy," he told one hapless musical hopeful. To another: "My advice would be: If you want to pursue a career in the music business, don't."

Cowell, 45, says he's simply being honest. "My job is to try and say what I think the audience are thinking at home," Cowell said. "What I've said from day one on 'American Idol' is, it doesn't matter how many people turn up, only two are going to be any good. So why give everybody else false hope, because it's such a tough business."

Cowell should know. He has fought his share of battles in a career that — as Cowell's biography on the "American Idol" Web site puts it — "shaped what we consider to be modern pop music today."

Born in Brighton on England's south coast, Cowell dropped out of school at 16 and got his first music industry job in the mail-room at EMI. Later he worked as an executive with the BMG label, signing the briefly famous Curiosity Killed the Cat — as well as the boy bands Westlife and Five — acts that are little-known in the United States but

scored multiple No. 1 singles in Britain and Europe.

Cowell showed a knack for working the kitschy, cartoony end of the pop spectrum, overseeing hit singles for a pair of TV actors called Robson and Jerome and for the Teletubbies.

He says that populist touch has served him well.

"Part of the reason the music business has had problems are the so-called experts not giving the public what they want," Cowell said. "The public doesn't always want perfection. There's something else — it's the Barry

ing process of a group on TV."

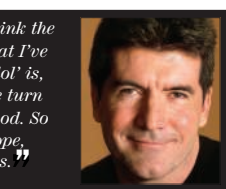
He has since changed his mind, but still insists: "I wasn't particularly interested in being on television. I never really went into this — unlike a lot of people who judge these shows — to be a personality per se."

A personality, however, is what he has become.

In Britain, Cowell is fodder for the tabloids, who note his penchant for high-waisted trousers and exhort him to marry long-term — and reportedly long-suffering — girlfriend Terri Seymour.

The Internet is home to a clutch of Cowell

"My job is to try and say what I think the audience are thinking at home. What I've said from day one on 'American Idol' is, it doesn't matter how many people turn up, only two are going to be any good. So why give everybody else false hope, because it's such a tough business."



Manilow syndrome, the Clay Aiken syndrome."

Cowell has little patience with critics who say "Idol" winners are disposable creations manipulated by svenals like himself and Fuller. He says the success of Aiken, the geeky 2003 "American Idol" runner-up, exemplifies the show's unpredictable appeal.

"Clay Aiken has been and probably will be the biggest-selling 'Idol' artist ever — and he didn't fit the mold. He just so happened to be what the public wanted."

There have been misses as well as hits in Cowell's career.

He famously failed to sign the Spice Girls, and didn't spot the potential in Take That, Britain's biggest boy band of the 1990s.

Cowell did not immediately see the allure of talent-show TV, either, turning down the chance to appear on "Popstars," a British forerunner to "Pop Idol," because, as he told an audience at the Edinburgh International Television Festival in August, "I did not think we should be showing the manufactur-

fan sites, as well as one that allows you to punch him. He has received one of pop culture's highest accolades — appearing as himself on an episode of "The Simpsons."

Cowell signed a three-year deal with "American Idol" in 2003 and has set up his own TV production company. His latest venture is "X Factor," a star-search show in Britain on which he acts as fellow judge and sparing partner to Sharon Osbourne. (Cowell is being sued by Fuller, who considers the show an "Idol" copycat).

Cowell says he's reluctant to plan far into the future.

He hopes his celebrity will help drive future TV projects, but says: "I don't think I'll be on the shows. I'd rather be in the background."

As for "American Idol," he says: "Some people say yes, of course it's got a finite life and all good things have to come to an end. There's another argument that says maybe this is the musical Super Bowl. Maybe it could run for 20 years."

Moore just a T-shirt girl

T-shirts. Everyone's got them, but no one has enough.

Pop star Mandy Moore created her own line and label, Mbleem, so that she could have an unlimited supply of "functional, casual and sexy" T's.

"It all evolved from the fact that I'm totally the jeans and T-shirt girl," Moore said.

For Moore, whose screen credits include "The Princess Diaries" and "Chasing Liberty," fit comes first.

"I'm a tall girl [5-foot-10], so I'm always searching for the perfect jeans and T-shirt," the 20-year-old singer-actress said.

Her Mbleem shirts, which are priced at about \$50, are available in some of her favorite color combinations, including orange and brown and pink and brown, printed with lyrics of some of her favorite classic rock songs.

Track star Jones sued

A North Carolina nursery has filed a lawsuit against Olympic track star Marion Jones, contending she owes \$188,000 for landscaping services provided at her Chatham County home.

The lawsuit claims Reba & Roses submitted a request for final payment last July and Jones refused to comply. Jones, who won three gold and two bronze medals at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, is also involved in litigation stemming from the high-profile BALCO steroids case. Jones has filed a \$25 million federal defamation lawsuit against Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative founder Victor Conte.

Trading priesthood for rock

Jack White of the White Stripes nearly traded his signature red-and-white outfits for a priest's robe and collar.

As a young teen, the rocker was nearly on the road to divinity school when an amplifier changed his mind.

"I got accepted to the seminary in Wisconsin and I was going to become a priest, but at the last second I thought, 'I'll just go to public school,'" White, 29, said in an interview on the CBS news program "60 Minutes Wednesday." "I had just gotten a new amplifier in my bedroom and I didn't think it was allowed to take it with me."

Martin donates to museum

Entertainer Steve Martin donated \$1 million to the American art collection at The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens.

The gift is seen as a boon for a department traditionally overshadowed by the California museum's European collections. Additionally, a new gallery opening this spring will eventually double the exhibition space for American art.

Martin is a serious art collector whose acquisitions have included works by Roy Lichtenstein, Pablo Picasso, Edward Hopper and Georges Seurat.

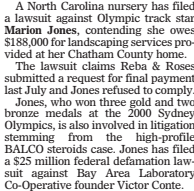
Stories and photos from wire services



Moore



Jones



White



Martin

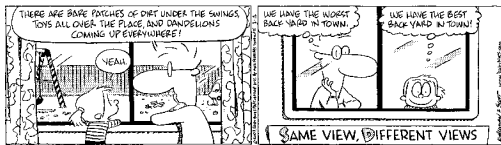
Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



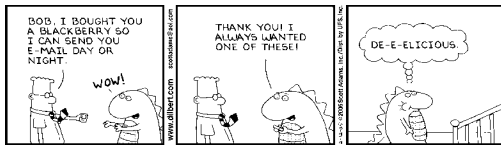
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



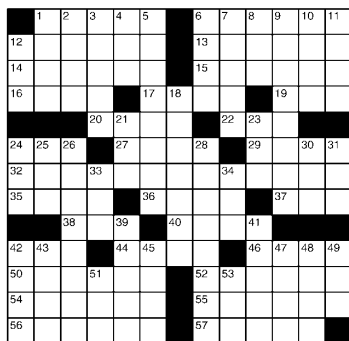
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Talent
- 6 Electrician, in Hollywood
- 12 Trinket
- 13 "My Cup Runneth Over" musical
- 14 Bawdy
- 15 "Gong Show" creator
- 16 A Baldwin brother
- 17 Goblet feature
- 19 Poseidon's realm
- 20 Friends and neighbors
- 22 Perched
- 24 Pro
- 27 Not even one
- 29 Senate employee
- 32 Sequence of causes and effects
- 35 One of the Jackson 5
- 36 Mexican entree
- 37 Follow relentlessly
- 38 Conclude
- 40 Grand
- 42 Its cap, was E. Berlin
- 44 Vote off the island
- 46 TVA structures
- 50 Water nymphs
- 52 Small studio's output
- 54 Even the score
- 55 Tease
- 56 Checked
- 57 Impaled in the ring

Down

- 1 Not even get a D
- 2 Garage job
- 3 By surprise
- 4 Under the weather
- 5 Black-and-orange songbird
- 6 Scoff
- 7 See 10-Down
- 8 Supporting
- 9 Ambulance offering
- 10 With 7-Down, Ernie Kovacs' co-star
- 11 Artist Bonheur
- 12 Shape shifter?
- 18 Vows to inflict injury?
- 21 B&B
- 23 Quick on the uptake
- 24 Performance
- 25 Actor McBride
- 26 Diners
- 28 America's Cup activity
- 30 Moo — gai pan
- 31 Chang's closest relative
- 33 "And — the opposite shore ..."
- 34 Bill's partner
- 39 Evade
- 41 Milk dispenser?
- 42 Estival pest
- 43 Host
- 44 Letterman
- 45 Secondhand
- 47 Staffer
- 48 Pinchile play
- 49 Away from NNW
- 51 Fornicary denizen
- 53 Ultramodernist

Answer to Previous Puzzle



2-12

CRYPTOQUIP

W O O K K V N Y M V I S N E Q O F Y V
N O S R K D Q Y W F R R I C S
V C S K U S V . I C S D ' O S

MSRQYQISKD CFI QISEV.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HE CAN'T REMEMBER
THE GENERIC NAME OF THE PILL, BUT IT'S ON
THE TIP OF HIS TONGUE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals F

Get addicted friend medical help

Dear Abby: I am 40 years old and have a close friend whom I have known since elementary school. She has been married for many years and has a beautiful home and family.

Abby, my friend is addicted to painkillers. She will cut herself or burn herself just so she can go to the ER to get pills. She goes to different hospitals and urgent care centers each time.

I have an ongoing medical condition, and she has begged me for my pills (which I need), offered to buy them from me and become irate when I refused. She has even told me that she offers to pay for other people's prescriptions if they'll give her half their pills.

This is putting a damper on our friendship, and I'm not sure what to do. Your thoughts, please.

— Worried in Wichita

Dear Worried: Your friend is a

prescription drug addict. She will need professional help to kick that habit, and possibly a support group thereafter. The kindest thing you could do for her is to tell her husband what you have told me, so he can alert her doctor and find help for her.

Dear Abby:



Dear Abby: My 10-year-old son, "Fritz," is lying to me. He is given 25 cents every school day for milk at lunch.

Lately, I have been finding this money in his pocket when I do laundry. When I asked my son about it, Fritz looked me straight in the eye and told me the price of milk went up to 35 cents last September. I know for a fact this is not true.

My husband, "Fritz," thinks this is no big deal, but for me the fact that Fritz is looking me in the eye and lying to me is very serious. If he's lying about this small issue at 10, what will be doing in five years? How can I

ever be sure he's telling the truth? There are many other issues involving our children where Frank refuses to back me up. I'm ready to throw in the towel and leave him to deal with it all. I'm exhausted and can't fight it anymore. I'm afraid to even suggest family therapy.

Frank would never be physically abusive, but I'm afraid that he would just shut down emotionally.

— Worn Out in California

Dear Worn Out: Under no circumstances must you tolerate your son lying to you. Tell him you are going to check on his story, and if it turns out to be untrue, he will be forced to punish him. Give him a chance to own up. If he comes clean to not punish him. If he continues to lie, then you must take away enough of his privileges that he will forevermore remember the penalty for lying.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at: <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby>

Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SUROE
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

©2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

DRAUF
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

SIPVLE
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

www.jumble.com

LOOSAN
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

A: □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

"□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □"

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DUCHY GUESS MOTHER BANDIT

Answer: What Junior did to Dad at the pet shop — "HOUNDED" HIM

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argliron



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □"

(Answers Monday)

Business trips strain relationship

Dear Annie: For the past two years, my husband has been traveling out of the country on business. Our relationship has become very strained, and I believe he is hiding many things from me.

I've always trusted him with our finances, but now I'm beginning to worry. He seems more interested in his business than in his family.

I know nothing about our finances, and I'm becoming nervous and worried that he's going to leave me. I have a strong feeling there is another woman in the picture. What should I do to protect myself financially?

— Could Be Losing Him

Dear Could Be: Every married person should be knowledgeable about the family finances. Look at the checkbook to see where the money is going. Call your bank and get copies of your financial statements.

Someone at your bank, or your accountant, can provide assis-

Annie's Mailbox



lawyer.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Dicked Off in Texas," the high school sophomore whose teacher punished a student who didn't have her school supplies on time by making her retake the class. This problem needs to be put in writing to the principal with a copy to the Board of Education. Documentation is necessary.

This teacher is really out of line to penalize the student for something over which she has no control. The parents are the responsible parties. They have the money and must find the

time to buy the supplies. This teacher lacks the intelligence and maturity to be in charge of a classroom and should be reprimanded.

I work in a public school system and am aware that teachers like this will be allowed to continue their abuse if not stopped. Telling the student to have the parents speak to the principal is a joke.

— J.W.

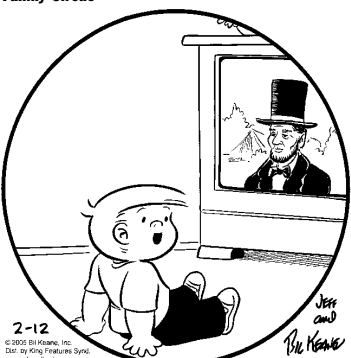
Dear J.W.: Our readers were split on this one. Here's more:

From California: I am sick of hearing the excuse that both parents work and that's why the student couldn't get supplies. I bet those parents find time to get groceries. My guess is that if it were a permission slip for a field trip, the child would have managed to connect with the parents.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

Family Circus



"I'll bet Abraham Lincoln gave Dr. Seuss the idea for the hat on the cat."

GRAFFITI



Dennis the Menace



"HEY, DAD! MOM WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT DINNER. THANK YOU, TAKE-OUT OR GO-OUT?"

© Gary Larson

The Far Side



As Thak worked frantically to start a fire, a Cro-Magnon man, walking erect, approached the table and simply gave Thak a light.

Non Sequitur



STRIPE SERVICE DIRECTORY


**your daily guide to navigating
the European Business Market**

FOR INFORMATION ON GROWING YOUR BUSINESS WITH THE SERVICE DIRECTORY

CONTACT SEAN ADAMS AT CIV: 06155-601203 or DSN: 349-8203

or EMAIL: adamss@mail.estrupes.osd.mil

Attorneys 886

FSL Attorney Joe Mais
Full Service Law Firm
 US & German Divorce
 Employment & Personal Injury
 Tax, Probate, Testament and Disputes
omni-mileschwaben
Office: Heidelberg Tel: 06221-727-9595
LAW OFFICES JOSEPH K. KELSO

 U.S. Attorney at Law
 Specializing in U.S. Federal
 Employment Law, Administrative Boards,
 Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice, Tort
 Claims, International Contracts and
 Immigration Law.
 Darmstädter Landstraße 181, 60508 Frankfurt am Main
 Tel: (069) 29 79 79 Fax: (069) 29 96 22

www.court-martial-defense.com

What were you doing 25 years ago?

David Court Martial was established in 1980 in Germany

Law Offices David Court

Phones: (069) 30 10 72 FAX: (069) 30 12 68

David Court Martial, Frankfurt, Germany

Dental 902

**BOTH OF THESE PEOPLE ARE
STRAIGHTENING THEIR TEETH!**
AMERICAN ORTHODONTISTS
CALL TODAY 0700-00-BRACES723237

We are now accepting applications for new patients

Health Insurance Plans - T-Care Providers

Michael Wolf, MD - Certified Orthodontist

Former USA - University of Maryland

Internet Services 600

PISnet

call us: 06221-750000

fax us: 06221-750005

e-mail: pisnet@piscnet.com

web: www.piscnet.com

INTERNET ACCESS
www.greenet.de

DSL Flat Rate €29.90/mo

Unlimited Time & Volume of

Internet Dial Up Connection

Phone: 06731-2348
**STANDARD ISSUE
MEETS A NEW
STANDARD**

 Now
Stars and Stripes
 newspaper is
 also available
 electronically.
 Get your copy
 for **FREE** at
estrupes.osd.mil
STARS AND STRIPES
 Your Hometown Newspaper
Wherever You Go, We Go.

Travel Agencies 1002

BOOK ONLINE
Don't like your Christmas gifts?
fly after 10 January and give your best!
Examples: Roundtrips
Stockholm
Phoenix
Los Angeles
Washington
Flights not received, including all other fees, taxes, and charges, must be paid before departure.
www.discount-travel.com
Call toll-free
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
0800FLY2USA
What's
your
scene?
Buy
Stripes this
Sunday
and every
Sunday to
get your
scene!
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene
Scene

Long Distance

Service

660

Sign Up and get a *Free
800 Number from the US!
THE Lowest Phone Rates to the USA (48 States)
Germany
4⁵
To USA
Germany
26^c
To USA
Italy
5⁹
To USA
On/Off Base
Cellphones
On/Off Base
Existing Customers Call for New Rate Plan
For more info or secure sign up:
www.milnet.net
*** By simply dialing your Milnet**
'Callhome' 800 number + PIN,
Friends and Family in the US can
contact you directly at
anytime, low rates! All your 800
calls are billed to your account!
Note: If a 24hr Toll Free Number is
not listed for your location, please
email for fast return call or sign up
online at www.milnet.net
MILNET
Calling Services
Since 1984
Fast, Easy Sign Up 24 hrs!
Credit Card / US Bank Debit!
Itemized Monthly Billing!
24/7 Live Customer Support
CALL TOLL FREE 24 HRS
Germany
8-800-1826-224
Italy
800-872-252
Spain
900-961-539
US Direct
1-402-392-7513
E-mail
info@milnet.net

Transportation 944

WORLDWIDE SHIPPING AGENCY
Ship Cars/Containers
to/from USA
100% American Owned and Operated
www.worldwide-ship.de
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252
1-800-872-252

Financial Services 904

LOANS
Active Duty & Retired Military GS-5 & Above
Call-Fax-Email for IMMEDIATE SERVICE
\$700 - \$15,000
US LOANS
For E-Z Online Service, Visit Our Website at
www.USLOANS.cc
Tel: (800) 637-1722 or Fax (800) 637-1633
E-Mail: USLOANS@usloans.cc
Toll Free Tel: 0004-353

STRIPE CLASSIFIED

Resume Service 928

RESUMES-CAREER COACHING, Service
www.getyourresume.com
Tel: 09355-997668

Services Offered 952

SKY Viewing
Card / Official Card
mobile 0172 6623298
or 09323 5579
email: pcouran@hfb.de

Sporting Goods 990

TOTALGYM exercise suits
total gym, gym, new gym &
1100 approx & 100 call leave
message 0181-420177

Travel 1000

"GARMISH SKING"
Hotel Forthof, Oberhof & km
Nth of Garmisch Hot tubs
Shower Pk, Dills, pools, free toilet,
dog welcome. 0824-9120
www.forthof-oberhof.de

What's
your
scene?

Buy
Stripes this
Sunday
and every
Sunday to
get your
scene!



Real Estate 850



Enjoy a prestigious lifestyle
with your High Class Home.

Houses designed
with American Features,
organized by American
engineer, Land Plot- and
Finance Service included.

KAMPA
EXCLUSIVE HAUSER

Ask for Diana Burns:
cellular phone 01 71 - 9 55 84 62, diana.burns@kampa.de
or Gene Guffey; phone 0 63 21 - 48 07 23,
cellular phone 01 78 - 9 23 63 42, gene.guffey@aol.com

Jobs Offered 630

Network Systems Manager

Service
CREDIT UNION

Overseas Headquarters seeks technical manager to be responsible for daily operation of all computer assets assigned to the overseas division of Service Credit Union. Review and recommend acquisition of new computer and CISCO networking concepts; expert in Microsoft Windows NT/XP/2000/2003; expert with various network protocols; the ability to troubleshoot and resolve user and system problems. Proficiency in German language is desired, as is a Bachelor degree in Computer Science, MScE, or equivalent practical experience. Must be eligible for NATO SOFA logistical support.

Qualifications: Expertise in LAN/WAN systems, equipment and concepts; expert in Microsoft Windows NT/XP/2000/2003; expert with various network protocols; the ability to troubleshoot and resolve user and system problems. Proficiency in German language is desired, as is a Bachelor degree in Computer Science, MScE, or equivalent practical experience. Must be eligible for NATO SOFA logistical support.

Contact: Mr. Richard E. Tolle,
Senior Vice President - Overseas Operations
DSN 489-7508 or Civ 0631-351-2002

Jobs Offered 630

Panasonic Military Sales

is now hiring sales representatives to work in the AAFES W, eBay and Amazon stores. Applying individuals must be in possession of a military or military sponsored ID card. If interested in a rewarding job please call +49 (0) 9841 95038, fax 09841 95039 or email (preferred method) Email: depansonscmil@aol.com

Audio Video & Computer Demonstrator

MSS is seeking in-store sales demonstrators for weekends, some evenings for the AAFES Power Zones at Bitburg, Spangdahlem, and Heidelberg. Strong communication skills and good AV & Computer knowledge is helpful. US ID cardholders preferred.
Call 06134-24709

TERRITORY MANAGER

F/T Territory Manager needed to sell and service Military Retail exchanges in the Vogelsberg/Ramstein, Heidelberg/Mannheim, area. Responsibilities include writing orders; driving sales, assist w/store merchandising & managing employees. Product include the leading brands of prestige fragrances, consumer electronics, apparel & giftware. ID Card a plus. Starting @ \$2K (salary negotiable) plus Car Allowance & Expenses. Send resume to shance@mssco.com or call 06134-26709

MPRI

Seeking former Non-Commissioned Officers in the grades E-5 thru E-7 MOS(s) 63 B/H/S/T for employment as Quality Assurance Evaluators in the Northern Italy Region. Interested qualified applicants should send their resume to email: **hbenco@t-online.de**

Jobs Offered 630

Employment Opportunities

JOIN THE
STARS AND STRIPES
TEAM TODAY!

Supervisory Regional Ledger Accountant
(NF-0510-04)
\$ 32K Salary
Opening Date: January 26, 2005
Closing Date: February 9, 2005

Qualifications:
BA in Accounting or equivalent, which includes 24 hours of accounting and/or 32 hours accounting, related courses.

Open to US citizens Only who are not ordinarily resident. Open to local hires only. Living Quarters allowance and moving expenses are not authorized.

How To Apply

Online: <http://www.bhsa.army.mil>
Email Resume: jah09@mail.strips.osd.mil
Send Resume: European Stars & Stripes, NAF Personnel Office, Unit 2040, Ft. Lee, VA 22111
Fax Resume: (49 (0) 415-601238 (Civilian))
30-4238 (DSN)
In Person: European Stars & Stripes, Griesheim Kaserne, Flughafenstrasse Geb. 4319, Griesheim Germany
STARS AND STRIPES is an EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS ARE PROVIDED TO APPLICANTS WITH DISABILITIES.
Civilian 011 +49 (0)415-601433/2027
DSN: 30-4433/2027

BAE SYSTEMS

Information Technology

Has contingent openings for part time Field Service Technicians in Vicenza, Naples, La Maddalena and Cantania Italy. Candidates must have reliable transportation and be available to travel upon short notice. Comprehensive knowledge of computer system installation, troubleshooting and repair a must.

If you are interested in these positions, please fax your resume to +49 (0)721-151-512950, or E-mail: bob.gross@baesystems.com
Equal opportunity Employer

STANDARD ISSUE MEETS A NEW STANDARD

STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

Wherever You Go, We Go

estripes.osd.mil

Pentagon
CHANNEL

Watch the new
Pentagon Channel ...

Serving Those Who Serve

... for military news and
information, 24/7, worldwide.

Visit pentagonchannel.mil and find out how!

pentagonchannel.mil

Oswalt signs 2-year, \$16.9M deal with Astros

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Right-hander Roy Oswalt and the Houston Astros avoided arbitration by agreeing Thursday to a two-year, \$16.9 million contract.

Oswalt, who had a hearing date next week, had asked for a raise from \$3,425,000 to \$7.8 million and was offered \$6 million by the Astros. He won career-high 20 games last season.

"Roy established himself as one of the best pitchers in the game in 2004," Astros General Manager Tim Lincecum said. "He has been a vital part of our success on the mound for the last four years, and we look forward to his continued success in the Astros uniform."

Oswalt went 20-10 with a 3.49 ERA last season. He was the eighth Astros pitcher to win 20 games in a season. He also struck out 206 batters.

In four seasons with Houston, Oswalt is 63-27 with a 3.11 ERA in 120 games.

Schilling's bloody sock goes to Hall of Fame

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. — The Hall of Fame now has the ultimate red sock to commemorate Boston's first World Series title in 86 years.

Curt Schilling donated the bloody sock he wore during Game 2 of the World Series to the Hall of Fame on Thursday. The sock is part of a Red Sox exhibition celebrating the team's four-game sweep of the St. Louis Cardinals.

Schilling's sock joins other Red Sox memorabilia including Derek Lowe's jersey from Game 4, the bat used by Series MVP Manny Ramirez when he tied a postseason record with a 17-game hitting streak, and the spikes Keith Foulke wore when he recorded the final out of the Series.

The exhibit runs through the 2005 baseball season.

Schilling had surgery Nov. 9 to repair a ruptured tendon sheath on his right ankle. The injury appeared to end his season in the middle of Boston's World Series run, but team doctors, in an unprecedented procedure, made a wall of stitches in Schilling's ankle to keep the tendon in place.

Schilling, with blood seeping through his sock, won Game 6 in the AL championship series against the New York Yankees and Game 2 of the World Series.

Brown making contribution in lieu of fine

NEW YORK — Kevin Brown is making a charitable contribution instead of getting fined for punching a wall and breaking a bone in his left hand last September.

Yankees General Manager Brian Cashman said Thursday the matter had been settled, but wouldn't



Houston Astros pitcher Roy Oswalt, who avoided arbitration, was 20-10 with a 3.49 ERA last season.

go into details. Another team official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the pitcher was giving more than \$100,000 to a charity, most likely the Special Forces Warrior Foundation.

In March 2003, after David Wells published an autobiography filled with revelations of drinking, drug use and disparaging talk that the Yankees felt tarnished their image, Wells was fined \$100,000, and the Special Forces Warrior Foundation was one of three charities chosen by the team to receive the money.

Cashman said the Yankees and Brown reached an agreement, and that the pitcher was not being fined. Brown hurt his non-pitching hand when he punched a clubhouse wall in frustration on Sept. 3 and didn't return until Sept. 26. He has a \$15 million salary, and if he would have been fined the amount of pay for the 22 days he was out, it would have come to about \$1.75 million.

Brown was ineffective when he returned and was the loser in Game 7 of the AL championship series against the Boston Red Sox, giving up a two-run homer to David Ortiz in the first inning.

Phils' Michaels avoids arbitration hearing

PHILADELPHIA — Outfielder Jason Michaels and the Philadelphia Phillies avoided their Thursday salary arbitration hearing when they agreed to an \$825,000, one-year contract.

Michaels, 28, hit 274 with 10 home runs and 40 RBIs in 115 games with the Phillies last year while platooning in center field with Marlon Byrd. He will be share time with newcomer Kenny Lofton next season.

A fourth-round pick by the Phillies in the 1998 amateur draft, was the final player to settle with Philadelphia among the four in arbitration this year, joining shortstop Jimmy Rollins, infielder Placido Polanco and right-hander Vicente Padilla.

Michaels made \$335,000 last year and was eligible for arbitration for the first time. He asked for \$925,000 in arbitration and was offered \$650,000.

Giambi: Yankee's apology falls short on specifics

GIAMBI, FROM BACK PAGE

"Most of all, to the fans, I'm sorry. I know it's going to be hard, and I understand how they feel."

Only 10 days before he's scheduled to report to spring training, Giambi met with print reporters for 45 minutes, with general manager Brian Cashman, manager Joe Torre and Telleem at his side. He later did another interview session for television and radio.

"If it was up to Jason, he would tell you everything," Telleem said.

Wearing a dark striped suit and black shirt, his face stubbly with several days of beard, Giambi's skin looked red, not pale as it might look of last season, when he was bothered by a paraneoplastic skin rash tumor. His weight was back up to about 235 pounds. He greeted fans outside the ballpark and signed autographs.

"It takes a hell of a big man to stand up and apologize to his teammates, to New York Yankees fans and to baseball fans everywhere and admit he was wrong," Yankees owner George Steinbrenner said in a statement.

Giambi, who last year repeatedly denied using illegal steroids, is owed \$82 million from the Yankees as part of the \$120 million, seven-year contract he was given before the 2002 season.

Steinbrenner spoke with him by telephone a few weeks ago.

"The biggest thing that I told him was I wasn't a quitter," Giambi said. "I told him that I was ready to play, and I was going to be that player that he had signed."

Yankees teammate Gary Sheffield said last October he unwittingly used substances that contained steroids. He was the team's most productive hitter last season and faced less scrutiny than Giambi.

Giambi said he was pleased with the agreement between players and owners for more frequent testing for performance-enhancing drugs.

He said he had not read the San Francisco Chronicle story, which cited testers of his 2003

grand jury testimony, and he would not say whether the newspaper's report was accurate.

The 2000 AL MVP with Oakland, his numbers dropped in the second half of the 2003 season when he had a knee injury. He slumped to .208 with 12 homers and 40 RBIs and was never healthy last year.

The Yankees even dropped him from their postseason roster.

"I think we're all curious to see how he's going to rebound from everything he went through last year," Torre said. "He certainly looks better than he did."

Torre toyed with batting orders last week and given the uncertainty, he didn't know where to slot Giambi, who could be supplanted by Tino Martinez at first base and become a designated hitter.

"There was a time a couple of years ago, you put him third or fourth," Torre said. "But right now, I don't know where he fits in our lineup."

One of the few topics Giambi specifically addressed was Jose Canseco's book, which is being released next week. The New York Daily News reported Sunday that Canseco says in the book that he, Giambi and Mark McGwire shot steroids together.

"I find that delusional to be honest with you. I don't even know where he would come up with anything like that," Giambi said.

"I think it's kind of sad that Jose is that desperate, I think, to make a name."

Cashman said the Yankees never discussed steroids with Giambi before they signed him, saying the agreement in baseball was different then.

"Today was a step, a necessary step," Cashman said. "One of many that needs to be taken."

Cashman and Torre both wore their shiny World Series rings, an adornment noticeably absent from Giambi's fingers.

"The biggest thing I feel inside is me not even being able to play in the playoffs with my teammates," he said. "I want to be out there. I came here to win a World Series. I haven't got a World Series yet and I want one."

Steroids: Time for baseball to tell truth to fans, too

STEROIDS, FROM BACK PAGE

the best stuff for a tell-all book of his own. Either way, Giambi wasn't about to share any of it with the media summoned to Yankee Stadium on Thursday for his performance.

A few minutes into it, somebody asked whether Giambi, like former Oakland A's teammate Mark McGwire, would claim to have been truthful when discussing his steroid use in the past.

"I can't get into specifics," he said for the umpteenth time.

"But one thing I'll tell you is when I went in front of the grand jury, I told the truth."

Smart man. But lying to the public has con-

sequences, too, as baseball may yet find out. The rest of us are already resigned to the fact that the last 15 years of baseball have been juiced; what we need to know now is how juiced? We can make our own decisions from there.

Everyone inside the game is always boasting about its continuity, and about how the chance to compare batters and their numbers from different eras links one generation to the next.

But the dizzying number of home-run trots lately is about to turn the century-plus traditions into a joke.

Just imagine Barry Bonds, the poster boy for this super-sized era,

blowing by Babe Ruth, and then Hank Aaron, and then turning back over a muscular shoulder on his way to home plate and whispering, "See you later, sucker!"

Whether the fans in the ballpark on that fateful day cheer or boo, or simply sit on their hands, will depend in large part on whether Bonds and Giambi and McGwire and all those other ballplayers who know the real story come clean. Right now, they've chosen silence, or else statements carefully parsed by high-priced legal help, leaving the confessionalists to disreputable stools like Jose Canseco.

But say this much for the former Bash Brother: At least

Canseco tried to put the problem in perspective. Until further notice from prosecutors, or until somebody with credibility inside the game steps up and does the same, Canseco's estimate — and a few others' — that 50 percent of major leaguers were juiced doesn't sound so far-fetched. Especially not at the top of the game.

It needs to be said that Giambi is far from the first, or even the worst offender in the game, and as such he knew better than to trot out the "I thought it was flavo-roid oil" — whatever, dude — defense.

He has plenty to lose, apparently, by telling the truth. No sooner

did news of his testimony break in December than the Yankees began exploring ways to break off the remaining two years and \$82 million on Giambi's contract. Admitting his steroid use now would be like handing the ballclub a crow bar.

So don't expect anything different from anybody else caught up in this widening mess. They're all in the same boat, and to know what they say about loose lips.

But if it's any consolation, they're sorry.

So are we all.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at: jllitke@ap.org



Fans watch from the deck of a home as actor Bill Murray sizes up a shot on the fourth hole of the Spyglass Hill Golf Course during Thursday's first round of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf tournament.

Mickelson hits long, scores low at Pebble

The Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Phil Mickelson keeps hitting it long and going low.

Fresh off a career-low 60 last week in Phoenix that led to his first victory of the year, Mickelson broke the course record at Spyglass Hill — the toughest layout in the three-course rotation — with a 10-under 62 on Thursday in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

Mickelson took advantage of pristine conditions on the Monterey Peninsula, with a brilliant blue sky and only a trace of wind that made Pebble Beach, Spyglass and Poppy Hills so tame that more than half the 180-man field broke par.

Mickelson's 62 was two shots better than the previous course record at Spyglass, last set by David Berganio four years ago.

And as always, he was a thrill a minute.

One birdie came out of a bed of ice pelt on the fourth hole.

Another came on the 527-yard seventh hole, when Mickelson hit a 6-iron off the cart path to the edge of the green and easily got up and down. He hit driver on the 325-yard 17th hole that left him 8 yards from the front of the green, leading to a tap-in birdie.

A 15-foot birdie putt on the final hole gave Mickelson a three-shot lead over Davis Love III, Charles Howell III, Kevin Sutherland, Daniel Chopra and Hunter Mahan.

Defending champion Vijay Singh played five groups behind Mickelson at Spyglass, and wound up 11 shots behind after opening with a 73.

Fasth matches course record, leads New Zealand Open

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — Sweden's Niclas Fasth matched the course record with a 9-under 63 on Friday to take a two-stroke lead in the New Zealand Open.

Fasth, one of three players to

match the course record set seven years ago by Scott Verplank, had a 16-under 128 total on the Gulf Harbor Country Club course.

Englishman Miles Tunniff (63) was at 130 and countryman Oliver Wilson (65) was at 131. Australians Simon Nash (67) and Jarrod Moseley (66) were 12 under and Australia's Richard Green (63) topped a group at 11 under.

Fasth had three eagles and three birdies in a bogey-free round.

Italy, Canada start fast in Women's World Cup

GEORGE, South Africa — Italy's Diana Luna and Giulia Sergas reeled off nine birdies between them to grab a share of the lead with Canada at 7-under 66 in the \$1 million Women's World Cup of Golf on Friday.

But for an ugly double-bogey seven on the ninth, the Italian pair would have had the outright lead in the tournament being played on the 6,424-yard links course at the Fancourt Country Club Estate.

Canada's duo of Lorie Kane and Dawn Coe-Jones played flawless golf to head a field which included powerful lineups from Australia, the United States, England and Sweden. Kane made all seven of her team's birdies.

Japan, with ten sensation Ai Miyazato and Rui Kitada, shot 68, a figure matched by Australia's Karrie Webb and Rachel Hetherington and the Swedish duo of Sophie Gustafson and Carin Koch. England's Laura Davies and Karen Stupples managed a single birdie over the homeward nine to finish three shots off the pace.

Also at 69 was the American team of Meg Mallon and Beth Daniel. The U.S. team posted four birdies on the front nine but was blanked on the back.

Hope for NHL season as final talks break off

By IRA PODELL
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The only thing the NHL and the players' association are close to is stamping out a season that never started.

No talks, no deals and, with the clock ticking on a weekend deadline, virtually no chance of playing hockey.

That's the word from both sides after yet another failed negotiating session Thursday in Toronto. "I can tell you unequivocally and without a doubt that we are done," NHL chief legal officer Bill Daly told The Associated Press on Thursday night.

"Without a change in position by the union, the season will be canceled," Daly said. "There will be no further contact with the union before the season is canceled unless they reach out to us."

"Don't count on that happening. We're not going to pick up the phone this weekend," union senior director Ted Saksin said after the four-hour meeting.

"We're done." And so passed what was likely the last chance to keep the NHL from becoming the first major league in North America to cancel a season because of a labor dispute. An official announcement could come within days.

Some five months into the lockout the NHL and the players' union remain on opposite sides of the salary cap argument. Owners insist on a link between revenue and player costs, the union vows never to accept it.

"Their outright rejection of our proposal yesterday I think speaks more to the fact that the union is never, ever, ever, ever — under any circumstances — prepared to play under any kind of cost-control, economic partnership, salary cap — you pick the term — type of system," Daly said. "As long as that continues to be their position, it's going to continue to be difficult for us to resolve this."

The players' association doesn't understand why the NHL will only consider one option to fix the league's financial woes.

"I think it's been very clear from Day 1 that this has never been about having a negotiation," Saksin said. "They have made it clear they have only one way of doing things and that's through their hard-cap system."

NHL Lockout at a Glance

Total days of lockout: 148.
Total days of season ended: 22.
Games lost Thursday: 31.
Total games missed: 824 of the 1,230 regular-season games plus the 1,200 All-Star game.
But: The NHL told the players' association on Wednesday that a deal would have been reached by this weekend in order for there to be a season.
Regulations: The NHL and players' association agreed to talk Thursday in Toronto after two days of meetings. Neither side hopes that a deal would be reached after the season ends. Neither side was making any new offers in the near future.



Daly

will for some time."

And now time is a major factor. Daly and commissioner Gary Bettman went to Toronto on Wednesday to give the players' association a final offer and a deadline to make a deal. Bettman said he would be ready to be put into writing by the weekend in order for there to be a season. The one he had in mind was already cut down from 80 games to 28 but would retain a standard, 16-team playoff structure.

The offer that came with it never stood a chance. The NHL suggested a new deal be made using the players' association's proposal from Dec. 9 that included a luxury-tax system and a 24 percent salary rollback on existing contracts.

But if any of four financial conditions were exceeded, then the NHL's salary-cap offer from last week would go into effect the following season. Teams would then be forced to spend at least \$32 million on player costs but no more than \$42 million, including benefits.

Players' association executive director Bob Goodenow said that at least one of the triggers would immediately be exceeded if this deal was put in place, and others could be easily reached.

Saksin called the proposal a public relations "gimmick" and the idea wasn't revisited Thursday.

Now it appears the sides will have to deal with the union's repercussions that come with canceling a season for a sport already low on the popularity scale in the United States.

"We're all suffering from the damage done," Saksin said. "But the players have been resolute in waiting to get the right deal, the right deal for the sport and one that's fair for both to operate under. And that's not what the league has been prepared to do."

As to be expected, the league felt the same about the players' association.

"Quite frankly, I don't know why they asked us to stay over night," Daly said. "I don't know what their agenda was. I just know there was no progress."

If the deadline was set to pressure the players' association to give in to the salary-cap demand, it hasn't worked so far.

We were not deadline hunting in any way," Saksin said.

During the meeting at the league's office in Canada, the sides spent 2½ hours huddling

separately. When it was over, Daly and Bettman immediately returned to New York.

The lockout has wiped out 824 of the 1,230 regular-season games as well as the All-Star Game, scheduled for this weekend. If the season is canceled, there is no telling when there will be NHL hockey again.

"I have no idea as I sit here today," Saksin said.

The sides have been assisted by mediators — as recently as last week in Newark, N.J. — but neither felt that was how a deal would be worked out.

"This isn't a negotiation that failed due to a lack of understanding," Daly said. "This is a negotiation that has failed for other reasons. I don't think a mediator would help."

The NHL also put some more specific numbers on their revenue-sharing proposal, and Saksin said it was in the \$80 million range of a \$2 billion pie.

Saksin said those numbers showed that teams are not willing to enter into partnerships with each other, let alone with the players' association.

MILITEC-1 SYNTHETIC WEAPONS LUBRICANT

A Force Multiplier

The New Standard for
Desert Warfare

- Weapons do not jam
- Weapons clean up with a dry rag
- Dry impregnated lubrication™

Attention Troops

- Go to www.militec.com and click for your FREE supply of MILITEC-1.
- Or call us Collect for your FREE supply of MILITEC-1 at (301) 893-3910.
- Unlimited supply of MILITEC-1 for our Troops. Free shipping, too!

Militec, Inc.
11828 Pika Drive
Waldorf, Maryland 20602
(877) 222-5512
© 2005 Militec, Inc.

NSNC:

1 oz, case of 100, 9150-01-415-9112
4 oz, case of 12, 9150-01-415-9114

Vick out to impress in his Pro Bowl debut

BY GREG BEACHAM

The Associated Press

HONOLULU — Michael Vick and Donovan McNabb budded in front of their lockers at Aloha Stadium on Thursday, goofing on any NFC teammate crossing their paths and making plans for a night out on Waikiki Beach.

Sure, the Pro Bowl week isn't exactly the toughest stretch of the NFL season, but Vick is taking it seriously enough that his fellow all-stars and the Atlanta coaching staff have teased him about it.

In between spending time with his family and his closest friends from around the league, Vick also is hoping to make an impression on anybody who still doesn't know what the Falcons star can do.

"Definitely, I'm focused on this game a whole lot," Vick said. "I've been thinking about it since our season ended in Atlanta. This is the first chance I'm going to have to line up against the best of the best, so if you can't end the season with a championship, this is one of the next-best ways."

Vick has become one of the NFL's most popular, versatile and electrifying players in his four seasons, but he hasn't made a Pro Bowl appearance yet.

He was selected for the NFC squad after his breakthrough season two years ago, joining Dan Marino, Brett Favre, Kurt Warner, Daunte Culpepper and Tom Brady as the only second-year quarterbacks to earn a spot in the game in their first full year as starters. But Vick skipped the Pro Bowl to get a banister removed from his right foot.

"He [Vick] is going to have all eyes on him when he goes in there."

Everybody knows what he can do in a real game. Now we'll get to see what he does when nobody can blitz you. It could be scary."

Donovan McNabb

Eagles quarterback

He figured he would have plenty of chances to get to Hawaii if he kept playing well — but then he broke his leg in the 2003 preseason, and the resulting disaster in Atlanta eventually led to coach Dan Reeves' firing.

"I wasn't thinking about the Pro Bowl at the end of last year," Vick said. "That was the last thing on my mind."

Everything changed this season when Vick got back on his precocious learning curve. With their quarterback's maturity and leadership skills growing with every passing week, coach Jim Mora and offensive coordinator Greg Knapp revitalized the Falcons, who won their division and reached the NFC championship game.

"This might be his first time in Hawaii, but he'll probably be setting up camp here every February for a long time," said Mora, who's coaching the NFC squad. "With his abilities, if we can put a team around him that's going to be successful every year, there's no reason he won't be one of the dominant quarterbacks in this league."

Though McNabb and Culpepper have seniority on Vick, they won't be surprised if Vick plays extensively Sunday in the second half of the Pro Bowl, where blitzing isn't allowed and no defenders try to deliver career-ending hits. Knapp has installed a variation of the Falcons' offense for the NFC squad, and Vick knows it as well as anyone.

"He's going to have all eyes on him when he goes in there," McNabb said.

"Everybody knows what he can do in a real game. Now we'll get to see what he does when nobody can blitz you. It could be scary."

Vick passed for 2,323 yards and 14 touchdowns this season, and he rushed for 902 yards and three scores. His passing numbers weren't spectacular in his first season in the West Coast offense, but his uncanny running abilities and his strong arm were more than enough to earn the respect of the players and fans who voted for him.

Vick counts McNabb and Culpepper among the players who extended advice to him early in his career, so he's particularly excited to be their teammates for the first time. McNabb and Vick also believe this



Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick looks to pass during an NFC practice on Thursday in Honolulu for Sunday's Pro Bowl game. It will be Vick's first Pro Bowl.

Pro Bowl will be one more advancement for the acceptance of black quarterbacks.

"It says a lot about how far the game has come and how the position has evolved," Vick said. "We're getting an opportunity to show what we can do in this league. ... It shows that we're here to stay."

Attention Active Duty Military!

Earn Your M.A. in Education ONLINE!

Touro University International has the Online Education program for you

- High quality, flexible and user friendly
- M.A. degrees in Education with various concentrations
- Maximum transferability of previously earned education credits
- Special rates for military spouses and retirees
- DANTES Affiliated
- All courses ONLINE!

NO TUITION COST TO YOU! UP TO 28 CREDITS PER YEAR



TOURO UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL
The University of Choice for the U.S. Military

www.tourou.edu

5665 Plaza Dr., Third Floor, Cypress, CA 90630
800-579-3161 • 714-226-9840 • 714-226-9844 Fax

College of Education e-mail: infocoe@tourou.edu
For inquiries log on to: <http://inquiry.tourou.edu>



**Now Accepting
Applications
for Spring
Session.**

Deep snappers get long overdue recognition

Gammon, Jennings make Pro Bowl roster for first time

BY GREG BEACHAM

The Associated Press

KAPOLEI, Hawaii — Kendall Gammon and Brian Jennings are the least famous players at the Pro Bowl. When you're a long snapper, anonymity is a very good thing — and their seasons never end with trips to Hawaii.

"You can't be a deep snapper and have an ego," said Gammon, the Kansas City Chiefs' peerless veteran. "The only way you get your name in the paper is if you mess up."

But these two standouts in their rarefied field are getting some long-overdue recognition in Hawaii this week. For the first time in their careers, Gammon and San Francisco's Jennings were added to the all-star rosters as coaches' "need" players, shining a spotlight on one of the NFL's most thankless positions.

Gammon has turned long snapping into an art form during 13 seasons in the league, and Jennings is among the best of the next generation. The players, coaches and fans don't get to vote on the NFL's best long snappers, since the position isn't officially on the Pro Bowl ballot, but almost everybody in the league knows about their skills.

"It's been really nice to see the reaction we've got from other players," Gammon said. "A couple of guys have said to me, 'It's about time you got over here.' It's

great to know guys appreciate what you do. If you ask any player, they'll tell you how important a deep snapper can be to a team."

For the past two years, Jennings has campaigned for greater recognition for the art of perfect snaps on kicks. A locker room favorite in San Francisco for his easygoing demeanor, Jennings turns serious when voicing his belief that the best long snapper should be treated the same way as the star running backs and safeties.

"It's great to be here, and now we've just got to figure out how to get us on the (Pro Bowl) ballot," said Jennings, who brought his parents and seven other family members to Hawaii.

"We're the need player this year, but you would think you would need us every year. I think it's only right."

When the Steelers chose Gammon in the 11th round of the 1992 draft, there were only a handful of specialized long snappers. The chores usually were performed by regular centers, and mistakes were much more common.

These days, nearly every team fills one roster spot with a player whose only assignment is to deliver perfect snaps to punters and kick-holders — and their value is well-known within the league, as their escalating salaries attest. Detroit attempted to sign Jennings away from San Francisco two years ago, but the 49ers matched the Lions' offer sheet.

Gammon and Jennings also have played tight end on occasion during their careers, but their lives are focused on delivering perfect spiral snaps at the right height and pace — even with the laces in exactly the right place. Gammon even produced his own instructional video on the art.

Gammon has more years of NFL experience than any player on either roster, and only San Francisco offensive lineman Ray Brown — a 16-year veteran when he earned a trip to Hawaii in 2002 — ever waited longer for his first Pro Bowl berth.

"He's one of the best there's ever been," said AFC coach Bill Cowher, who coached Gammon in Pittsburgh for his first four NFL seasons. "This league has got into such specialization that it's important to have a long snapper here, just to recognize the work they do, and when I looked at the list of guys out here, Kendall obviously stood out."

Cowher also believes long snappers should be added to the Pro Bowl ballot — but just in case the NFL doesn't put the position to a vote any time soon, Gammon is making the most of this trip.

He and his wife, Leslie, took pictures of their two sons, Blaise and Drake, with their available all-star after practice Thursday.

Peyton Manning, Jerome Bettis, Hines Ward and Will Shields all put their arms around the boys.

And the vacation isn't over yet: Gammon



Kansas City Chiefs' Kendall Gammon (83) watches an AFC practice for Sunday's Pro Bowl at the Iolani Resort in Kapolei, Hawaii on Thursday. Gammon has turned long snapping into an art form in his 13 seasons.

will be in Maui later in the winter for meetings as a union representative.

"Sure, all 5- and 8-year-olds go to Hawaii twice in a month," he teased his kids.

Roddick, Agassi into SAP Open quarterfinals

The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Andy Roddick withstood an admirable effort from an opponent determined to slug away at the American's booming serve.

The top-seeded Roddick went the distance to reach the SAP Open quarterfinals, beating South Korean Lee Hyung-taik 6-3, 3-6, 6-2 on Thursday night behind 17 aces.

Sports briefs

"I'm not going to sit here and lie to you guys and say I'm feeling great," Roddick said. "I've been marginal. I'm just going to keep battling. I'm kind of down, but I'm still in the tournament. I know 24 other guys who would like to still be here."

Second-seeded Andre Agassi also moved into Friday's quarterfinals with a 7-5, 6-1 victory over Kenneth Carlsen earlier Thursday.

Agassi overcame a slow start to defeat Carlsen to advance to the quarterfinals of the event for the 12th time in 13 appearances.

Aside from one hiccup on his record, Agassi is playing solid tennis so far in 2005.

Seeded second and ranked 10th in the world, Agassi beat Carlsen for the third time in as many meetings to improve to 6-1 this season. But it took the 34-year-old American some time to get comfortable against the left-hander and his slicing groundstrokes.

Agassi began attacking

Carlsen's backhand, late in the first set, and the strategy eventually wore down the 31-year-old Dane.

Tainted soccer referee encouraged player to dive

FRANKFURT, Germany — The referee at the center of Germany's game-fixing scandal encouraged a player to fake a foul and earn a penalty kick during a game rigged by the official.

Referee Robert Hoyzer told Paderborn captain Tiesj Waterink, "Come on, do something!" during a German Cup game in August, according to Hoyzer's statement to Berlin prosecutors that was read at a hearing Friday before the German soccer federation.

Waterink fell and third-dividend Paderborn was awarded one of two penalty kicks by Hoyzer, helping the team rally from a two-goal deficit to beat first-division Hamburger SV 4-2.

Hoyzer did not attend Friday's hearing, which was to listen to Hamburg's request to have the game replayed. The team later said it was withdrawing its appeal.

Telfair unclear if Ga. Tech bribe was a joke

ATLANTA — Portland Trail Blazers rookie Sebastian Telfair said Thursday he was offered money during recruiting by someone who claimed to represent Georgia Tech, but wonders now if it just was a hoax.

Telfair issued a statement

André Agassi serves to Kenneth Carlsen of Denmark in the second round of the SAP Open in San Jose, Calif., on Thursday. Agassi beat Carlsen 7-5, 6-1.

through his agent, Andy Miller, which elaborated on the allegations made in a book that a Georgia Tech supporter offered the point guard \$250,000.

Yellow Jackets coach Paul Hewitt and Telfair denied the claims on Wednesday. On Thursday, the player put a slightly different spin on the alleged incident.

"I was approached by a man who claimed to be associated with the Georgia Tech program and offered money. I dismissed the offer," Telfair said in the statement. "I've never had contact with coach Hewitt or anyone with the Georgia Tech program regarding this incident, nor was I ever approached by anyone or offered anything at any other time. To this day, I'm not sure if it was a joke."

Telfair committed to Louisville but wound up skipping college.

Eagles tag former Pro Bowler Simon

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The Philadelphia Eagles placed the franchise tag on former Pro Bowl defensive tackle Corey Simon on Thursday.

Simon had 24 tackles and 5½ sacks this season, and is scheduled to become an unrestricted free agent on March 2.

The Eagles would have seven days to match any offer made to Simon, a Pro Bowler last year after leading the team with 7½ sacks.

If Philadelphia declines to match the offer, the Eagles would take this step to keep him on draft picks as compensation.

Unless he re-signs to a long-term contract, Simon would play next season under a one-year deal for the average of the five highest-paid players at his position.

"Corey's a good player, and his personality fits very well in our locker room," coach Andy Reid said in a statement. "He's a talented player against the pass and against the run. We're happy to take this step to keep him in Philadelphia."

The Eagles, with about \$18 million under the salary cap for next year, have several players from last year's Super Bowl team who could leave via free agency, most notably Pro Bowl middle linebacker Jeremiah Trotter. Guard Jermon Bushberry, defensive end Derrick Burgess and tight end Chad Lewis are also unre-



stricted free agents, while running back Brian Westbrook is a restricted free agent.

Simon was the Eagles' top pick (sixth overall) in 2000. He has 32 sacks in his five-year career and set the Eagles' rookie record with 9½ sacks.

Raiders hire Millard

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Keith Millard was hired to be the Oakland Raiders' assistant defensive line coach Thursday, leaving the Denver Broncos' staff to work for their AFC West rivals.

Millard, a former All-Pro defensive lineman for the Minnesota Vikings, will be Sam Clancy's assistant with the Raiders. Millard had been the Broncos' defensive line coach for the past four seasons.

Eagles' Thomas to miss Pro Bowl, replaced by Adams

HONOLULU — Philadelphia offensive tackle Tra Thomas dropped out of the Pro Bowl with a back injury Thursday, and Dallas' Flozell Adams replaced him on the NFC roster.

Adams, a seven-year veteran, will make his second trip to the Pro Bowl after starting last season's game. He'll join four Dallas teammates in Hawaii: guard Larry Allen, defensive tackle Le'Roi Glover, safety Roy Williams and tight end Jason Witten.

Olson joins Wooden among Pac-10 elite

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Lute Olson tried to downplay his latest coaching milestones. "It means I've been able to keep my job a long time," the 70-year-old Arizona coach said. "We've had a good team and great guys in the program."

Olson joined UCLA's John Wooden as the only Pac-10 coaches to win 300 conference games and Arizona reached 20 victories for the 18th straight season with an 88-76 victory at Southern California on Thursday night.

Olson is 300-86 in Pac-10 play, while Wooden guided UCLA to a 304-74 conference mark before retiring in 1975. Olson can get his 301st conference win Saturday against the Bruins at Pauley Pavilion, where the 94-year-old Wooden is usually in attendance.

The Wildcats (20-4, 10-2) have won 17 of 19.

"When I first got there 22 years ago, I said I wanted to build a program, not a record," said Olson, who has a 539-161 record in 700 career games at Arizona.

Olson's teams have won 20 or more games in 27 of his 32 years as a college coach, tying him with Texas Tech's Bob Knight and Syracuse's Jim Boeheim for second in NCAA history behind the 30 of North Carolina's Dean Smith. Olson is 731-253 overall at Long Beach State, Iowa and Arizona.

Salim Stoudamire scored 16 of his 26 points in the first half for Arizona. He was 5-for-7 from three-point range and 9-for-14 overall.

"I appreciate having Lute as my coach," Stoudamire said. "He's taught me so many things over the years. Only one other coach



Arizona's Ivan Radenovic comes up with a loose ball after a scrap with USC's Nick Curtis.

has gotten 300 (conference) wins, and that's Coach Wooden. So that's a great accomplishment."

Channing Frye added 14 points, seven rebounds and four blocked shots for Arizona. Freshman Gabe Pruitt led Southern Cali-

fornia (9-14, 2-10) with 21 points and five assists, and freshman Nick Young added 18 points.

"We got beat by a better team," USC coach Jim Saia said. "Congratulations to Lute. He's one of the giants of our game."

No. 6 Wake Forest 86, N.C. State 75: At Winston-Salem, Justin Gray scored 18 points to help Wake Forest (20-3, 8-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) move into a first-place tie with Duke and North Carolina.

Eric Williams added 15 points, and sixth-man Taron Downey was 4-for-4 on three-pointers and finished with 14 points. Julius Hodge had 27 points for the Wolf-pack (13-10, 3-7).

No. 11 Washington 95, Oregon 88 (OT): At Eugene, Ore., Will Conroy scored 17 points for Washington, including a three-pointer that sent the game into overtime.

Nate Robinson led the Huskies (20-3, 10-2 Pac-10) with 24 points. Jordan Kent had 19 points and 16 rebounds for the Ducks (11-9, 3-8).

No. 14 Gonzaga 82, Pepperdine 75: At Malibu, Calif., Roney Turley scored 20 points and Adam Morrison had 19 to lift Gonzaga (18-4, 8-2) into first place in the West Coast Conference, a half-game ahead of Saint Mary's.

Yakhouba Diawara had 24 points for Pepperdine (13-12, 3-7).

No. 21 Cincinnati 65, Xavier 54: At Cincinnati, Eric Hicks scored 16 points and Jason Maxiell added 15 to help the Bearcats (18-5) beat Xavier for only the third time in their last nine meetings of the rivalry.

Stanley Burnell led Xavier (11-9) with 12 points.

No. 24 Pacific 78, Idaho 56: At Moscow, Idaho, David Doubles scored 21 points to lead Pacific (19-2, 13-0 Big West) to its 15th straight victory overall and 26th straight in the conference.

Dandrick Jones led Idaho (8-15, 6-6) with 20 points.

Kostelic leaves sick bed to win third skiing gold

BY ERICA BULMAN

The Associated Press

SANTA CATERINA VALFURVA, Italy — Croatia's Janica Kostelic left her sick bed to win the slalom gold medal Friday and become the first woman in 23 years to win three titles in the Alpine World Ski Championships.

Kostelic, forced to skip the giant slalom earlier this week because of a high fever and cough, was third after the opening leg, then delivered an amazing second run to retain her title from 2003 in a combined time of 1 minute, 47.98 seconds.

"I am feeling very poorly," said Kostelic, who doubled over in the finish area gasping for breath after her final effort and wiping her forehead with snow before being helped off by team officials. "I'm ill and want only to go to bed. I have no more strength."

"Before my run I tried to eat as much chocolate as possible in order to refuel my energy. I'm lucky. Thanks to my brother, Ivica, who gave me courage."

Kostelic added the slalom title to those from the downhill and slalom events last week.

The last woman to win three gold medals in a world championship was Switzerland's Erika

Hess, who won the slalom, giant slalom and combined titles in Schladming, Austria in 1982.

Kostelic also collected triple gold in the 2002 Winter Olympics, winning the slalom, giant slalom and combined.

Tanja Poutiainen, this season's World Cup slalom champion and the leader after the opening leg, struggled to find a clean line on her final turn down and settled for her second silver of the championships in 1:48.16.

Kostelic had the advantage over Poutiainen as her coach and father, Ante Kostelic, was the designated course setter for the second leg under rules that rotate the job among coaches from race to race. American coach Trevor Wagner set the gates for the first leg.

"The second run was a very heavy course, and I couldn't find my rhythm," Poutiainen said. "On the whole I am content, although I was disappointed at first that I didn't win gold."

The 24-year-old Poutiainen is the first Finn to win an Alpine World Cup season title and, with her silver medal behind Sweden's Anja Paerson in the giant slalom on Tuesday, is the first to win an alpine world championship medal.

Poutiainen slept with her skis in her room following a break-in at the Finnish ski team's hotel in Santa Caterina, where Paerson's waxing technician, Slavo Mulej, also was staying.

Two intruders were interrupted at 3:30 a.m. by a desk clerk investigating a noise. The would-be thieves got away but did so empty-handed.

Czech dark horse Sarka Zahrobka celebrated her 20th birthday with a surprise bronze medal, crossing in 1:48.65 for the nation's first-ever world championship medal.

"I cannot find the words to describe this bronze," Zahrobka said. "I am proud also for my country. I celebrate my 20th birthday in the best possible way."

Zahrobka posted the fastest second run in Tuesday's giant slalom to end up 10th, her best career result in that discipline.

Paerson, second in the opening leg Friday, skied off course during her second turn down the slope. The Swede was feeling unwell, hit by the bug that has felled Kostelic and several other skiers in the championships.

"I got hooked on a hairpin and went out," Paerson said. "First run, I was really sick. Second run I was a bit better."



Kristina Koznick, the top U.S. slalom skier, crashes out during the first run of the women's slalom on Friday in the world ski championships.

Paerson, the reigning overall World Cup champion, and Kostelic have won all the women's titles so far, but the Swede's super-G and giant slalom golds came with Kostelic absent. The Croat skipped the super-G to train for the downhill and was too ill to contest the GS.

A number of medal contenders crashed out in Friday's opening run, felled by a tricky hairpin gate within sight of the finish, including Kristina Koznick of the

United States, Marlies Schild and Elisabeth Goergl of Austria, Laura Ertl of Germany and Laure Pequegnot of France.

Americans swept places 6-8. Resi Stiegler, with her trademark kitty ears glued onto her helmet, was sixth in 1:49.27, followed by Sarah Schleper in 1:49.29 double bronze medalist Julia Mancuso in 1:49.30.

Two other Croats finished in the top 10, with Ana Jelusic crossing in ninth in 1:49.33 and Nikka Fleiss finishing 10th in 1:49.99.



Photo by Matt Bush

CONGRATULATIONS!

Mr. Charles Cummins is the
Grand Prize Winner in the
StripesClub.com
"Win a Trip to Las Vegas"
Contest!

Congratulations to Charles and thank you to
Xposed Magazine, America's premier men's
online portal www.xposed.com,
for donating the prize with agency partner
Exotic Travel www.exotictravel.com.



Your Hometown Newspaper
STARS AND STRIPES
www.stripes.com



Blazers aiming for turnaround

BY ANNE M. PETERSON
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — After a tumultuous first half marked by injuries, infighting and embarrassing allegations of dogfighting against a player, the Portland Trail Blazers are making a bid for respectability.

A solid win over the Sacramento Kings last weekend capped a season-best three-game winning streak and seemed to be a sign they finally were coming together as the All-Star break approached. But then the Blazers showed just how erratic they can be, losing at home to the hapless New Orleans Hornets.

Veteran guard Nick Van Exel, a team leader, paused when asked whether it is possible for Portland to recover from its tough first half and make the playoffs.

"I think it is," he said. "Seventh or eighth seed. It is going to be close."

Going into this weekend, the Blazers were 20-27 and in 12th place in the Western Conference.

"After the All-Star break it's going to get real crucial," forward Darius Miles said.

The Blazers embarked on the season with promise. Last season's shakeup dispensed of troublemakers Rasheed Wallace and Bonzi Wells.

It brought in a group of seemingly solid citizens who played hard down the stretch last season but couldn't quite come together in time to make the playoffs.

The Blazers finished 11-41, missing the playoffs for the first time in 22 years.

New additions, like center Theo Ratliff, forward Shafer Abdur-Rahim and Miles gave fans hope for the future as the new season got underway. The only real grumbling came from Ruben Patterson, who complained about losing playing minutes.

From there, it unraveled. And it started with a female pit bull named Hollywood that had fresh wounds when it wound up in the hands of authorities.

Sheriff's deputies and the Oregon Humane Society searched Qyntel Woods' Tony Lake Oswego home, and allegations of dog fighting surfaced.

The Blazers, still trying to restore the team's image after numerous player arrests and other trouble during the past few years, immediately suspended Woods without pay. He was later waived when he pleaded guilty to misdemeanor animal abuse.

The Blazers really didn't need Woods. Already packed at forward, they struggled to find court time for Abdur-Rahim, Patterson, Miles and Zach Randolph.

Patterson looked like he was the odd man out, destined to become a situational player off the bench, while Abdur-Rahim was on the trading block.

It didn't work out that way.

At the end of December, Abdur-Rahim — who had won a



Portland Trail Blazers forward Ruben Patterson, right, hugs teammate Damon Stoudamire on Feb. 5. After a tumultuous first half, the Trail Blazers are hoping to get back to the playoffs.

starting role over Miles and was leading by example — started having trouble with his elbow. Early in January, he decided to undergo surgery to remove bone fragments. He remains on the injured list.

Miles, who got a six-year, \$48 million contract in the offseason, went down at the same time with a badly bruised left knee, which he injured against the Clippers on Jan. 5. He missed eight games.

Randolph, selected as the league's most improved player last season, signed a six-year deal worth \$86 million. But he missed five games with a bruised right knee and hasn't been reinserted into the starting lineup.

Things turned ugly in late January when Miles blew up at coach Maurice Cheeks during a film session, repeatedly calling his coach a racial epithet. Both men are black.

The Blazers suspended Miles for two games and he issued a statement apologizing to fans, though he did not apologize to Cheeks. Some saw the mild suspension, for insubordination and detrimental conduct, as evidence management was not backing the coach.

But in recent weeks, Van Exel has found a groove in the backcourt with Damon Stoudamire, while rookie Sebastian Telfair has gotten some valuable experience off the bench.

Patterson is no longer complaining about minutes because he's a starter at forward, playing perhaps the best basketball of his career. Center Joel Freyre also became a starter to everyone's surprise.

The Blazers have had trouble with consistency, which the players say is probably the most troubling aspect of the season.

"I don't want to miss the playoffs again. We missed the playoffs last year," Miles said. "I've never made the playoffs and I want to go. It's a goal."

SPORTS

Steroids have put baseball in sorry state

Jason Giambi is sorry. Sorry. Sorry. Sorry. So sorry, that he'd already apologized five times in five minutes to TV reporters before somebody had the good sense to ask him exactly what he was apologizing for. "I'm sorry," Giambi began, "that I can't get into bigger specifics for you guys and hope-

Jim Litke



fully, someday I will. Because of the legal issues that are going on, you know, it would be a lot easier. But I hope everybody understands this is the position I'm in.

"I'm trying to do the best I can and say I'm sorry. That's the best I can do and," he added, probably sensing that he was close to a personal best, "I apologize for that."

Rarely has so much contrition yielded so little information — and even less responsibility. But that's the sorry state Major League Baseball finds itself in a week before pitchers and catchers report. Nobody still knows nothin'. Everybody is still sorry. You'd hear the same story eavesdropping at Tony Soprano's "Bada-Bing" club any afternoon.

So go ahead, throw all those spring-training promises back in a drawer. The real suspense this season won't be whether the Red Sox or Yankees added enough pricey new pieces to win the World Series.

It will be whether anybody inside baseball can muster the courage to answer the question that is shredding the game's credibility. And the only place people are even working on it is the federal prosecutor's office in San Francisco.

That office is just down the road from the now-infamous BALCO Lab, where a raid by investigators in September 2003 lifted the lid on the worst-kept secret in baseball. It's even closer to the grand jury room that Giambi strolled into one morning last winter and unburdened himself of most of what he knew about steroids. There were plenty of sordid details, according to testimony leaked to newspapers, but who knows? He might be holding back



AP

New York Yankees first baseman Jason Giambi, who reportedly told a grand jury that he used steroids for at least three seasons, said he was sorry five times at a news conference on Thursday, but he didn't say why.

Giambi apologizes — but won't say 'S' word

Yankees 1B's first public comments since leak of his grand jury testimony contain no mention of steroids

BY RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jason Giambi is sorry. He just wouldn't say for what.

The All-Star first baseman twiddled his thumbs, crossed his legs and fidgeted in his chair when he came to Yankee Stadium on Thursday to make his first public comments since it was reported in December that he told a federal grand jury he took steroids for at least three seasons.

"When I went into that grand jury, I told the truth," he said.

He said he was sorry five times. He apologized three times.

To the New York Yankees. To his teammates. To the fans.

But he never said why. And he never talked about using steroids, never mentioned the word.

"I know the fans might want more, but at this present time because of all the legal matters, I can't get into specifics," he said. "Someday, hopefully, I will be able to."

Said his agent, Arn Tellem: "The answers are there if you look for them."

On this day, though, Giambi wasn't telling all.

"There's been a lot of distraction, definitely, over the last year, and I'm sorry for that, I really am," Giambi said. "I feel I let down the media, I feel I let down the Yankees, not only the Yankees, but my teammates."

"I accept full responsibility for that," he went on. "I'm sorry, but I'm trying to go forward now."

Mickelson's 10-under 62 gives him first-round lead in Pebble Beach, Page 30



Pistons still are too much for Lakers in rematch of '04 NBA Finals

Page 34



Pacers' Miller to retire after season; Jazz say Malone will end career Sunday

Page 34



No. 12 Arizona helps coach Olson reach two more milestones

Page 33

SEE STERIODS ON PAGE 29

SEE GIAMBI ON PAGE 29

NHL talks over with little hope of saving season Page 30

